

مكتبة من الصحف

## Turkey accuses Iraq of arming Kurds

ISTANBUL (R) — President Turgut Ozal accused Iraq Wednesday of arming separatist Kurds in southeast Turkey with sophisticated weapons, including LAW anti-tank missiles, mortars and rockets. "Only a state can supply such weapons. They (the insurgents) are receiving them from the arms depots of Saddam Hussein," Mr. Ozal told a meeting of the Turkish Young Businessmen's Association. Mr. Ozal said Iraq has stepped up arms deliveries to the insurgent Kurdistan Labour Party (PKK) following last year's Gulf war, in which U.S. aircraft carried out bombing raids into Iraq from Turkish bases. Iraq's parliamentary speaker, Saadi Mehdi Saleh, on a four-day visit to Ankara, denied the charges Wednesday. "The PKK has been carrying out an escalating eight-year campaign for a separate Kurdish state in the southeast. More than 5,000 Turkish soldiers, civilians and guerrillas have been killed in the violence, 2,000 this year alone. The Turkish leader has repeatedly called on the opposition in Baghdad to topple the Iraqi leader."

# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation  
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الراي"

## Crown Prince begins official U.S. visit

HOUSTON (Petra) — Their Royal Highnesses Crown Prince Hassan and Princess Sarvath Thursday begin official visits to the United States, the United Kingdom and Belgium. During his visit to the U.S., the Crown Prince will seek to clarify Jordan's position vis-à-vis the political, economic, social and population issues facing the Middle East region. The Crown Prince is due to meet with a number of prominent personalities and academics in the United States and will visit the space centre in Houston where he will be guest of the Houston Forum and deliver an address focusing on the Middle East peace process from a Jordanian perspective. In Chicago the Crown Prince will meet with a number of economists to discuss Jordanian-American economic links. At the U.N. headquarters in New York, he will meet with Secretary-General Boutros Ghali to discuss world issues and the Middle East question. The Crown Prince is scheduled to deliver an address at the International Peace Academy during a general conference attended by prominent world politicians. In Britain, the Crown Prince will deliver an address at Oxford University on the state of the world's refugees. The Crown Prince's final stop will be in Belgium where he plans to meet with ministers and parliament members to discuss Jordanian-Belgian relations.

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## King attends army battalion's anniversary

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday attended a celebration organised by the Second Royal Armoured Battalion, held to mark its 40th anniversary. King Hussein was received at the site by the commander of the Third Division, the commander of the 40th Brigade, His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah Bin Al Hussein, who is the commander of the Second Royal Armoured Battalion, as well as the battalion's officers. King Hussein had a meeting with the commander of the battalion and was briefed on its plans and programmes. The Monarch then watched field exercises by the battalion and visited an exhibition organised by the battalion. His Majesty also distributed awards and trophies to officers and soldiers who had distinguished themselves in the battalion's activities.

## Liberal reelected Tunisian speaker

TUNIS (R) — Liberal politician Habib Boulares was reelected speaker of the Tunisian parliament Tuesday. Mr. Boulares, 59, a politician member of the ruling Democratic Constitutional Union (RCD) which holds all 141 assembly seats, ran unchallenged to his second one-year term. Prime Minister Hamed Karoui told several deputies in a meeting Monday that the government was working on reforming the electoral code to allow opposition parties to run for the next elections expected late next year or early 1994.

## Geneva meeting planned over Sahara feud

ALGIERS (R) — U.N. envoy Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said Wednesday he was seeking a meeting of Moroccan and Saharan tribal leaders in Geneva to try to end differences blocking a peace plan for the Western Sahara. Speaking after separate talks with Moroccan, Polisario Front and Algerian leaders, Mr. Khan said details of the Geneva meeting had not been fixed but he hoped it would help break an impasse over plans for a referendum in the disputed territory. "That effort continues," he said on Aljazeera Radio.

## Ex-hostages suing Iran for \$600 million

NORRISTOWN (AP) — Former hostages Joseph Cicippio and David Jacobson are seeking \$600 million of Iran's frozen assets in a lawsuit accusing its government of sponsoring "commercial terrorism," their lawyers said Wednesday. The civil suit was to be filed later in the day in federal court in Washington, D.C., the lawyers said. The suit says Iran kept the hostages in Beirut as leverage to free up some Iranian assets frozen after the 1979 storming of the U.S. embassy in Tehran. Millions of dollars in frozen assets remain, said lawyer Frank Murphy. "We believe there are sufficient assets there to satisfy the debt," Mr. Murphy said. "Basically, what we're saying is that Iran conducted commercial terrorism for profit," lawyer James J. Oliver told the Philadelphia Inquirer.

## Iran: No nuclear deal with Kazakhstan

NICOSIA (AP) — Iran denies claims that it bought nuclear weapons from the former Soviet republic of Kazakhstan, the official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported Wednesday. The agency said Iran's mission to the United Nations issued a statement Tuesday in New York calling reports of Iranian attempts to obtain nuclear arms as a "sheer lie." The statement "reiterated that the Islamic Republic of Iran, as a signatory to the Non-Proliferation Treaty on nuclear arms, did not possess any kind of nuclear weapons or arms of mass destruction and did not intend to obtain them," IRNA said. The U.S. government said Tuesday it had no reason to believe Kazakhstan has sold nuclear warheads to Iran, and the Kazakhstan president's spokesman denied there was any such deal (see page 2).

# More houses collapse in Cairo in quake aftermath

CAIRO (Agencies) — More earthquake-ravaged apartment houses collapsed in Cairo Wednesday in aftershocks from a strong quake that President Hosni Mubarak said has claimed more than 450 lives. Worried Egyptians are turning to earthquake-prone Japan for equipment and advice. No casualties resulted from the newly fallen buildings. Authorities evacuated them because of serious damage from Monday's quake that measured 5.9 on the Richter scale. Officials at the government's earthquake operations room refused to reveal the number that collapsed in three of the capital's poorer districts but said all were old. They warned that badly cracked apartment buildings in three other districts could crumble.

On a main street in downtown Cairo, police cordoned off an area surrounding two damaged apartment houses that had been evacuated in fears they might collapse. On has 12 stories, the other three.

Wednesday's collapses occurred as two aftershocks jolted people in Cairo and elsewhere.

Ezzeddin M. Ibrahim, a government earthquake expert, said seismographs registered one at dawn at 3.7 on the Richter scale and another measuring 3.6 six hours later.

In Fayyum, 120 kilometres southwest of Cairo and close to the Monday quake's epicentre, the aftershocks sent thousands of panicked residents into the streets.

"Aftershocks can go on for up to four weeks, gradually decreasing in intensity," Mr. Ibrahim said.



Cairo residents stand outside a building in the Seyed Zeynab district which collapsed during Monday's earthquake

Operations room officials said Cairo's numerous poor districts have thousands of old buildings that may have been weakened by the big tremor. They feared that some might crash as a result of aftershocks. "Cairo is a timebomb," said

Saad Eddin Ibrahim, American University sociologist and urban planning expert. "It just takes catastrophes to bring it out."

Dr. Ibrahim estimated that at least 50 per cent of Cairo's buildings are unsafe or illegal — shoddily constructed or higher

than allowed by law. Harassed local government officials began to house families made homeless but distraught people who had spent two nights sleeping in the open appealed for faster action.

Major-General Ahmad Al Sirri, coordinating relief work by Cairo's local government, told Reuters 580 families had been allocated apartments Wednesday morning in empty blocks in Peace City, a new satellite town in the desert.

Reporters who visited the town said many of the apartments lacked water or electricity and some had no toilets but officials said they were doing their best to equip them.

Gen. Sirri said decisions on rehousing other people who were afraid to stay in cracked buildings could not be made until engineers had checked that their homes were really unsafe — but there was an acute shortage of engineers.

Gen. Sirri said the authorities had to be careful because "some people might be staying outside just in the hope of being given a new apartment."

Agitated applicants barged into his office to demand immediate action, some clutching business cards with requests for intervention from people they thought might have some influence with the local government.

"We came to ask you to solve a problem, not for you to blame us or to blame you," one angry man shouted at Gen. Sirri.

Figures released by the Ministry of Interior Wednesday put the death toll at 471 and said about half the 4,000 injured were still

in hospital.

The King spent less than two hours in the Egyptian capital, where over 450 people were killed and thousands were injured in Monday's quake.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said that in talks with President Mubarak the King "voiced sorrow and grief over the loss of life and property in the earthquake."

"All the resources of Jordan are at the disposal of the Egyptian government in efforts to cope with the consequences of the earthquake," the King was quoted as telling Mr. Mubarak.

The two leaders also discussed bilateral relations and issues of mutual concern, Petra said. It did not give details.

President Mubarak thanked the King for the visit, saying it reflected "the brotherly ties and solidarity between the two countries," Petra said.

President Mubarak led a high-ranking Egyptian delegation which received and saw off the King, who was accompanied by Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben

Shaker and Royal Court Chief Khaled Al Karaki.

Reports from Cairo said the King and President Mubarak did not discuss any political issue in depth.

However, the visit itself was seen as highly significant, given the strain in relations caused by the Gulf crisis, and it was the first concrete sign of a thaw in the frost in political contacts between the two sides.

The King's visit to Egypt on Aug. 10, 1990, to attend an emergency Arab summit which discussed the Gulf crisis. The summit brought about the split in the Arab World, with some countries advocating a diplomatic solution within the Arab context to the Gulf crisis and a majority tacitly endorsing international military intervention to reverse Iraq's occupation of Kuwait.

Although the occupation was ended militarily in February 1991, Jordanian-Egyptian relations remained strained and the Kingdom's repeated efforts for reconciliation were in vain.

However, an occasion pre-

# King pays surprise visit to Egypt Trip carries big political significance despite its humanitarian nature

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday paid a brief surprise visit to Cairo to offer condolences over the disastrous earthquake that hit Egypt and offer Jordan's help in coping with the difficult situation to President Hosni Mubarak.

It was the King's first visit to Egypt since August 1990, when differing positions vis-à-vis a solution to the Gulf crisis triggered by the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait strained Jordanian-Egyptian relations.

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However, an occasion pre-

sented itself when the King underwent surgery in an American hospital in August. President Mubarak contacted the King at least twice over the phone and sent his ambassador to Washington to visit the King personally in hospital.

A similar gesture also came from Saudi Arabia's King Fahd, whose personal emissary was Prince Bandar Ben Sultan, the Saudi ambassador to the U.S. and an influential member of the ruling family in Saudi Arabia.

Unconfirmed reports had said earlier that President Mubarak was planning a visit to Jordan to personally congratulate the King on the successful surgery he underwent and wish him continued good health.

The King is expected to travel to Saudi Arabia soon to perform Umra, the lesser pilgrimage to Mecca and Medina, in an expression of thanking God for the recovery from illness. During the visit, the King is expected to meet with King Fahd, according to officials here.

The King's visit to Egypt on Wednesday fell in line with Arab traditions. Sudan, whose relations with its neighbour have been strained by ideological as well as political differences, sends its second man to Cairo to offer condolences to Mr. Mubarak Wednesday.

President Mubarak himself launched reconciliation with Saudi Arabia in 1992 with a surprise visit to offer condolences to King Fahd over the death of King Khaled. The rift was caused by the separate Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty that Mr. Mubarak's predecessor, Anwar Sadat, signed with Israel in 1979.

## Israeli troops kill two in Gaza

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — A Palestinian teenager was fatally shot Wednesday in the occupied Gaza Strip in a demonstration sparked by an earlier clash between Israeli troops and Palestinians, the army said.

One Palestinian was killed and an Israeli soldier was critically wounded in the first incident Tuesday night in the Gaza town of Khan Yunis. A second Palestinian was slightly wounded and captured, the army said.

The army said the patrol ordered two "suspicious men" to halt. Instead, the men opened fire with assault rifles, seriously wounding a soldier. The troops returned fire, the army said.

In defiance of a curfew, residents of Khan Yunis took to the streets Wednesday to protest the death.

Palestinians threw stones, iron bars and bottles at troops and the army "responded," the army said.

Later, the body of Tassin Abu Shama, 18, was brought to Nasser

Hospital, Arab reports said. He had been shot in the chest, they said.

Shama's death brought to 967 the number of Palestinians killed by Israeli soldiers or civilians since the start of the uprising nearly five years ago against Israeli occupation, according to an Associated Press count.

The Palestinian killed Tuesday night was identified as Anwar Suleikh, 24, a leader of Fatah in Khan Yunis, Arab reports and the army said.

Mr. Suleikh was reported to have killed suspected collaborators and been involved in a number of armed attacks on Israeli troops. He was wounded but escaped in August in a fire-fight in which an Israeli soldier was killed, the army said.

There have been at least 10 armed attacks on soldiers in Gaza this month, Israeli Radio said.

Lawyers: Israel rejects demands

Arab lawyers said Tuesday

Israel had rejected key demands by Palestinian political prisoners due to decide whether to renew a hunger-strike that triggered bloody clashes in the occupied territories.

The lawyers met Israeli Police Minister Moshe Shahal for two hours to discuss implementation of an initial agreement reached Sunday between representatives of the prisoners and the Israeli prisons authority.

"If we were to meet the prisoners today, we would tell them that from our conversation with the minister of police, there is nothing to indicate demands were met," said Ali Ghuzlan, head of the Arab Lawyers Committee.

"It is up to them to decide if they should continue the strike or not," he said.

Lawyers had said most of the nearly 10,000 Palestinian prisoners who began their hunger-strike on Sept. 27 suspended their fast for a week Sunday after prison officials agreed in principle to some of their demands.

## Hrawi, Assad hold talks

DAMASCUS (AP) — Lebanese President Elias Hrawi met with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad Monday for talks expected to focus on the Middle East peace process and a possible pullout of Syrian troops from Beirut.

Lebanese sources said selection of a new parliament speaker and formation of a new cabinet following Lebanon's first elections in 20 years would also top the agenda.

The official Syrian Arab News Agency (SANA), which reported the meeting, said only that Mr. Assad received Mr. Hrawi in the presence of Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam, who welcomed the Lebanese guest at the border.

Selection of a new speaker has reportedly strained relations between Mr. Hrawi and Speaker Hussein Al Hussein, who is working hard for reelection. Mr. Hrawi reportedly favours Shiite Militia chieftain Nabih Berri, head of the pro-Syrian Amal movement.

Mr. Hrawi met with Mr. Assad for five hours Monday. Diplomatic sources said discussion partly covered the speaker election and Mr. Hussein's chances of retaining the post.

Lebanese sources said the formation of a new cabinet was also high on the agenda since the country was badly in need of a strong government capable of handling the country's economic and social crises.

Mr. Hrawi's visit came as Lebanon was gripped by an anti-inflation nationwide strike called by the General Federation of Trade Unions, which controls the country's 350,000 workers (see page 7).

Lebanese media said the two presidents would likely address the issue of Syria's troops deployment in conformity with an Arab League-brokered peace pact that ended the country's 15 years of civil war.

The accord, worked out by the Lebanese parliament in a special session held in the Saudi Arabian resort town of Taif in September 1989, provided for the redeployment of Syrian troops in the eastern Bekaa Valley two years after political reforms in Lebanon are ratified.

## Arafat seeks support for peace talks

TUNIS (AP) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat opened a campaign Wednesday to quieten Palestinian unease at the deadlocked Arab-Israeli peace talks.

Mr. Arafat, under increasing pressure from hardline groups to withdraw from the negotiations, started consultations with senior aides on a strategy to be offered for ratification at a crucial meeting Thursday of the Palestine Central Council (PCC) in Tunis.

PLO Executive Committee member Yasser Abed Rabbo said Mr. Arafat's strategy, aimed to still criticism of the one-year-old negotiations, would reaffirm the principles according to which the Palestinians agreed to start the talks.

These are:

— The ultimate goal is to exchange land for peace in accordance with Security Council Resolution 242.

— The status of the city of Jerusalem should be discussed and should be part of any settlement between Israel and the Palestinians.

— There should be an election for a Palestinian lawmaking council that would take over in the occupied territories during the interim period proposed by Israel.

Mr. Abed Rabbo, who himself is a member of a committee preparing positions for the Palestinian negotiators, ruled out

## Jordan announces Saturday meeting

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan Wednesday announced that the foreign ministers of Jordan, Syria, Lebanon and Egypt as well as the head of the Political Department of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) will hold a two-day meeting Saturday and Sunday ahead of the resumption of the Arab-Israeli peace negotiations in Washington on Oct. 21.

The announcement was made by Foreign Minister Kamel Abu Jaber.

Dr. Abu Jaber told Jordan Television that the ministers would review the outcome of the sixth round of talks and coordination among Arab states in matters related to the next round.

"Coordination is of paramount importance in view of the current critical circumstances," Dr. Abu Jaber said.

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— There should be an election for a Palestinian lawmaking council that would take over in the occupied territories during the interim period proposed by Israel.

Mr. Abed Rabbo, who himself is a member of a committee preparing positions for the Palestinian negotiators, ruled out

a pullout from the talks that he said would be "harmful to the Palestinian cause."

He accused the anti-peace talks factions of capitalising on frustration at lack of progress in the negotiations, which ended their sixth round last month and resume in Washington next Wednesday.

(Continued on page 5)

## Qatar calls for joint panel on border row

DUBAI (R) — Qatar called Wednesday for the formation of a joint committee with Saudi Arabia to demarcate their disputed desert border, scene of a bloody clash two weeks ago.

The Qatari News Agency (QNA) said a cabinet meeting supported the formation of a joint committee, which it said conformed with a 1965 border agreement between the two countries.

It called for negotiations as soon as possible "within the framework of the joint committee." If negotiations failed, the dispute should be put to international judgement, the agency quoted the cabinet as saying.

The cabinet also called for "a halt to intervention by Saudi Arabian forces in the disputed border areas and withdrawal from the areas they have taken over," the news agency said.

## Senior U.N. officials in Iraq for talks on relief

BAGHDAD (AP) — Hundreds of Iraqi children with empty milk cans and unfilled feeding bottles greeted U.N. officials Wednesday as they arrived to assess the impact of sanctions on children.

Some of the young demonstrators carried flowers as they chanted "Halib, halib" (milk) upon the arrival of James P. Grant, executive director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

The U.N. team will also complete arrangements of emergency winter relief for Kurds in northern Iraq.

The United Nations scaled down its relief operations and reduced its international staff after the July 1 expiration of an agreement with Baghdad allowing the U.N. programmes to operate.

"Conditions in northern Iraq differ greatly from elsewhere in the country," said a U.N. report on the winter plan. "The region is suffering from the sanctions on the whole country, further ampli-

fied by internal supply restrictions imposed by the central (Iraqi) government," said the report obtained in Baghdad.

The U.N. wants to send 33,000 tonnes of food, 4.2 million litres of fuel, and medicine before severe winter sets in early December. It has indicated that emergency supplies will be carried in through Turkey and Iran if necessary.

The U.N. document says it needs \$85.7 million for the winter plan for northern Iraq, home of most of the estimated four million Iraqi Kurds.

"The plan's objective is to alleviate a situation which might otherwise result in malnutrition, starvation, and possibly renewed large-scale displacement of people," said the U.N. report.

In Baghdad, about 750 Iraqi schoolchildren, some wearing black bow ties, paraded on the

(Continued on page 5)

Iraq ready to sell oil futures, page 7

## Somali warlord plans counter-attack on Bardera

MOGADISHU (Agencies) — Clan chieftain Mohammad Farah Aidede held a war council Wednesday to prepare a counter-attack on troops who sacked his base in southern Somalia.

General Aidede's men were expelled from their guerrilla headquarters in Bardera, whose capture by a rival group Tuesday alarmed aid agencies trying to stop starvation.

"The general is holding a war council after these events in Bardera," an aide told Reuters. "He is very busy preparing the next move," he said.

Sources in his United Somali Congress (USC) said a battle was imminent to drive out the Somali National Front (SNF) troops of Siad Hersi Morgan, son-in-law to ousted dictator Mohammad Siad Barre.

On the recommendation of the United Nations, aid officials said they were cutting staff in the famine-stricken town of Bardera.

Although fighting had not reached Bardera, 250 kilometres northwest of the capital Mogadishu, U.N. officials apparently

feared the town could be the next target. Bardera is a major relief centre.

It also is among the hardest-hit Somali villages with an estimated 200 dying there daily.

Bardera is 150 kilometres north-east along the southern region's main road from Bardera.

It was not immediately known whether the U.N. recommendation would affect an international food airlift to Bardera. Eight flights, seven of them by U.S. military cargo planes based in Kenya's coastal town of Mombasa, were planned to Bardera Wednesday.

They decided to monitor the situation closely in the southern sector of the country but there was no suggestion any aid workers or programmes would be withdrawn, aid workers said.

"We'll just keep our ears to the ground and get on with it," said E.K. Krishan, Somalia director of the American charity Care and a veteran of its clan warfare and blood feuds.

(Continued on page 5)

## Saleh urges Yemenis to make polls a success

SANAA (AP) — Amid a wave of political violence, President Ali Abdullah Saleh has appealed to Yemenis to ensure that forthcoming parliamentary elections are a success.

The violence has stirred uncertainty about the elections, the first since the conservative North and Marxist South merged 2½ years ago.

"With the elections, we will end the transitional phase and Yemen will enter a brighter phase...with more security and stability to achieve all ambitions in development to ease the living hardships of the Yemeni people," Mr. Saleh said in a speech Tuesday night marking the South's national day.

No date for the ballot has yet been announced, but political circles say the ballot will likely be held before Nov. 21.

(Continued on page 5)



## U.S. sees no sign of Kazakhstan selling nuclear arms to Iran

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States has rejected new allegations that Iran secretly bought nuclear weapons from the former Soviet republic of Kazakhstan.

"We have no evidence or any other reason to believe that Kazakhstan has either sold or delivered nuclear weapons to Iran," U.S. State Department spokesman Joe Snyder told reporters Tuesday.

He noted recent news stories suggested "one or another of the former Soviet republics were selling nuclear weapons."

"We have aggressively followed up on each story through diplomatic and intelligence channels and have found no substance whatsoever to these allegations," he said.

Although somewhat less categorical, the Defense Department concurred. Spokesman Pete Williams told reporters "it appears highly unlikely" that nuclear warheads had been sold to Iran.

Since the collapse of the Soviet Union late last year, there have been occasional charges that arms from its vast nuclear arsenal were being sold off.

Each time, Washington said there was no proof of any nuclear deals. However, Russia, desperate for hard currency, has acknowledged conventional sales, including the sale of diesel submarines to Iran over strong U.S. objections.

The most recent report came from an Iranian dissident group, the Mujahadeen-e-Khalq, whose director of international relations, Mohammad Mohadesin, was said by aides to have warned the Bush administration about Iranian nuclear arms purchases in

meetings in Washington last week.

The aides told Reuters Kazakhstan sold four nuclear warheads to Iran and sent several experts there to help with the country's nuclear weapons programme.

The Iraq-based Mujahadeen have long accused Tehran's ruling mullahs of pursuing a nuclear weapons capability to bolster their brand of Islamic fundamentalism.

U.S. syndicated columnist Roland Evans and Robert Novak in a column Monday quoted "high U.S. officials who are aware of Iran's bid to Kazakhstan" as saying it may be impossible to prevent delivery of warheads if Tehran has signed an agreement.

Mr. Snyder said the United States would continue to "pursue all such reports (of nuclear arms deals) vigorously."

When the Soviet Union broke up, suddenly there were four countries with nuclear weapons on their territory instead of just one — Russia, Kazakhstan, Belarus and Ukraine.

Under arms accords with Washington, all but Russia vowed to give up nuclear weapons. In fact, authorities have said that all tactical nuclear arms from Kazakhstan, Ukraine and Belarus have been moved to Russian soil for dismantlement.

Under the START treaty signed in July 1991, long-range nuclear weapons are to be moved eventually from Kazakhstan, Belarus and Ukraine to Russia to be scrapped.

Asked if every nuclear weapon in Kazakhstan was accounted for, Mr. Snyder said: "We have repeatedly sought and

received assurances from high level officials in Russia and Kazakhstan and the other Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) republics that nuclear weapons will be protected."

"Russia, which has control over these weapons through the CIS (central) command, has assured us that all tactical nuclear weapons, the type most susceptible to potential theft... have been removed from Kazakhstan," he said.

"We have received assurances from the CIS strategic forces at the highest levels in Russia that effective security is being provided for weapons throughout the Commonwealth."

He noted that the remaining nuclear weapons in Kazakhstan — SS-18 intercontinental missiles and long-range bombers — are under the control of the CIS command and that as recently as September, Kazakhstan's prime minister "made clear his country would not sell nuclear weapons" on its territory.

"Iran needs strong army"

President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani said Tuesday Iran needed a powerful military to hold its own in the world but preferred to resolve any regional dispute through negotiations.

"The Islamic Republic of Iran is not a war-monger and does not favour turmoil and confrontation," he told graduating army cadets in remarks quoted by Tehran Radio.

"(But) we live in a world where one cannot ignore military power because whenever any nation is deprived of defence its rights will be trampled underfoot."

## International anti-censorship organisation censures Rabin

By Lamey Salisbury  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A London-based anti-censorship group has demanded that Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin repudiate the repressive policies of his predecessors, especially those curbing freedom of expression in the occupied territories.

In its first human rights report to contain comprehensive recommendations for the Labour-led government, Article 19, the International Centre for the Protection of the Right to Freedom of Expression, said that Mr. Rabin fulfil his pre-election campaign promises.

"In order to encourage greater accountability on the part of the newly-elected government and to promote adherence to the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which Israel ratified in 1991, Article 19 has published this study of one key aspect of repression in the occupied territories: Censorship," said the report, a copy of which was made available to the Jordan Times.

Called "Cry for Change: Israeli Censorship in the Occupied Territories," the report documents oppression of the media, academia, art and religion from 1990 to 1992 under the Likud-dominated coalition

led by Yitzhak Shamir.

In an Article 19 press release, the group's recommendations to Mr. Rabin include releasing Palestinian journalists detained for peacefully expressing opinions and abolishing all forms of censorship and restriction on academic autonomy and artistic performance.

According to the report, freedom of expression, seriously abused since the intifada began in 1987, further deteriorated with the outbreak of the Gulf war in January 1991. In February of that year, 10 Palestinian news agencies were closed down by the Israeli army's 24-hour, 50-member staff censorship unit.

The closure came following a state of emergency declaration with the war's outbreak, enforcing a "near-total blackout of information" that reduced nearly by half the sizes of newspapers and the salaries of journalists, the report said.

In 1991, more than 20 journalists were detained, including Radwan Abu Ayyash, president of the Arab Journalists Association. According to the report, more than 70 journalists have been administratively detained since the start of the intifada.

But, expulsion orders issued to several journalists in January 1992 were commuted to "administrative detention" in

August by Mr. Rabin. The report had been arrested following the killings of Jewish settlers in the occupied territories. No reasons were given for the orders and their lawyers were not allowed access to their clients.

Foreign media were not immune to censorship and harassment. Of the 1,200 foreign journalists in Israel and the occupied territories during the war, scores have complained of assault, travel restrictions and interruptions by censorship officials while dictating articles by telephone, the report said.

In past reports, military censor Yitzhak Shani has confirmed that 593 international telephone calls by foreign journalists, including several private conversations, were disconnected by military censors.

Academia was also prey to scrutiny. According to the "Cry for Change" report, thousands of books have been banned, most of which are freely available to students in Israel. The laws invoked are contained in the 1945 Defence Emergency Regulations which continue to be used by Israeli authorities.

The report documents the closing of schools, hitting 303,000 primary and secondary school pupils and 22,000 university and college students and student harassment and bans.

## Pentagon: Kuwait chose U.S. tank for merit

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The Defence Department Tuesday welcomed Kuwait's decision to buy U.S. Abrams M-1A2 tanks instead of British Challengers and denied it was prompted by heavy political pressure from Washington.

"A deal that could involve 236 tanks at a cost of up to \$4 billion including ammunition and parts, Kuwait said it had chosen the M-1A2 made by General Dynamics Corporation instead of the challenger-2 built by Vickers defence systems."

"The government of Kuwait conducted an intense competition between the tanks it was considering buying, and the Abrams tank was the clear winner," Pentagon spokesman Pete Williams told reporters Tuesday.

He said the M-1A2 had proven itself during the competition and in the Gulf war.

"If the Abrams tank had been an inferior weapons system, I don't think any amount of political pressure would have made a difference," Mr. Williams said in response to questions about reports of direct pressure from President George Bush and other U.S. officials on Kuwait.

No final deal has been struck, but the decision could preserve over 5,000 General Dynamics jobs in Michigan and Ohio. They are key states in the November presidential election, in which Mr. Bush now trails Democratic challenger Bill Clinton.

Some British politicians and trade unionists Monday accused Kuwait of rejecting the Challenger in favour of the M-1A2 for political rather than military reasons.

U.S. officials said Kuwait chose the U.S.-made tank after a

## Quakes threaten Mideast people and treasures

REUTERS  
OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — EARTHQUAKES are an ever-present hazard in the Middle East, threatening millions of people as well as the treasured monuments of antiquity and the holy sites of three great religions.

It is a region where millions are at risk, living on the fault lines of three colliding continents.

In June 1990, 35,000 people died in an earthquake in Iran. Since 1980 thousands have died in quakes in North Yemen, Turkey and neighbouring Armenia.

Israel, too, expects earthquakes.

"Every hundred years, plus or minus a few years, there is a really strong earthquake," said Eli Arielev, head of the seismological division of Israel's institute for petroleum research and geophysics.

The last strong one struck 1927, damaging the Al Aqsa Mosque and other famous buildings. Ninety years earlier, a devastating quake shattered the Palestinian town of Safed.

But the earthquake that struck Cairo on Monday was away from the well-known fault lines that run through the Red Sea and the Jordan Valley. It was in an area that was thought relatively safe, Mr. Arielev said.

Although it measured a relatively mild 5.3 on the Richter scale, compared with at least 6.2 in the 1927 Jerusalem quake, hundreds died as rickety buildings crashed to the ground.

The geological process that has literally shaped the region — and triggers periodic earthquakes — is the grinding collision of the giant tectonic plates that form the continents.

The border of the region's plates is the depression running through the Red Sea, along the Jordanian-Israeli demarcation line to the Dead Sea and the Sea of Galilee and north along Lebanon's Bekaa Valley towards Turkey.

## GCC conference calls for strategic water reserves

ABU DHABI (AP) — The six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) wrapped up a conference on water resources by urging creation of a joint strategic water reserve.

"We need to face the security and technical risks... by constructing underground water reservoirs for quantities of water exceeding the daily consumption for the urban areas and for use in other purposes in case of emergency," GCC expert Abdul Latif Ibrahim Al Mignir said.

Mr. Mignir, one of 200 water specialists attending the four-day conference that ended late Tuesday, said emergency supplies also could be brought by tankers.

He also called for setting up a unified regional water network and unifying departments in charge of water in the GCC states — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

## MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

### Three guerrillas captured by Israeli forces

BEIRUT (AP) — Israeli forces captured three guerrillas trying to infiltrate through southern Lebanon, security sources said Wednesday. The three, two Lebanese and a Syrian, were members of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the sources said. They were captured Tuesday night after being spotted near Mount Hermon by an Israeli patrol in Israel's self-proclaimed "security zone." Early reports said the guerrillas were killed, but the security sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said they had surrendered immediately after coming under heavy fire by the Israelis. Mount Hermon is located at the junction of Lebanon, Syria and Israel and forms the eastern boundary of the "security zone," a 16-kilometre wide swath of territory. The Israeli army said the guerrillas carried three Soviet-made Kalashnikov rifles, ammunition, grenades and vests.

### UNICEF chief arrives in Baghdad

BAGHDAD (R) — The executive director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) arrived in Baghdad Wednesday to assess the effects of U.N. sanctions on Iraqi children. "James Grant wants to see for himself how the impact of sanctions is affecting the lives of Iraq's children," the UNICEF office in Baghdad said in a press release announcing the visit. Hundreds of schoolchildren carrying empty milk cans and bottles demonstrated outside a Baghdad hotel before Mr. Grant arrived. Led by their teachers, they chanted Iraqi slogans. A planeload of drugs and other medical supplies arrived with Mr. Grant. "Mr. Grant is concerned that the humanitarian needs of women and children are not being fully addressed and wants to bring this to the attention of the donors," the UNICEF office said. Mr. Grant, on a four-day visit as a guest of the government, will meet Iraqi ministers and UNICEF staff in the south and Dohuk in the north. UNICEF has spent about \$60 million to aid Iraq since February 1991, with about 30 per cent going to the northern areas paralysed since a rebellion. U.N. relief work in Iraq has been virtually halted since a memorandum of understanding between the government and the United Nations expired in June. It has still not been renewed but UNICEF has started receiving government travel and shipping permits again and staffers have begun visiting southern Iraq, where the agency had to close its offices last summer. Last week UNICEF sent three truckloads of vaccines and medical supplies to the Kurdish-held north — the first such shipment in almost three months.

### Sweden repeats hope of release for 3 Swedes

STOCKHOLM (R) — Swedish authorities repeated Tuesday their hope that three telephone engineers jailed in Iraq for allegedly entering the country would soon be set free. Cabinet Secretary Lars Ake-Nilsson said Iraq had indicated that the three men would soon be released after an appeal court hearing. "Hopefully it will be this week," Mr. Ake-Nilsson said on Swedish television's Akteuell news programme. The three men, Stefan Wihlborg, Leif Westberg and Christer Stromgren, were jailed for seven years on Sept. 20 for allegedly entering Iraq from Kuwait where they were working on a telephone contract. Sweden has said that if they entered Iraq, it was by mistake, and has demanded their immediate release. Iraq has also sentenced two Britons to lengthy jail terms for illegal entry, and diplomats say a Pakistani and a Filipino face trial on the same charges. Iraqi Foreign Minister Mohammad Saeed Al Sahaf said in Baghdad Monday that the release of American Chad Hall at the weekend did not mean automatic release for the three Swedes. "Their case is entirely different," he told reporters. However, Cabinet Secretary Ake-Nilsson said Mr. Sahaf had told United Nations Secretary-General Boutros Ghali Sept. 25 that the three Swedes would be released shortly. Mr. Hall was arrested in the disputed border area between Kuwait and Iraq Thursday and taken to Baghdad, but Iraq returned him to Kuwait under U.N. escort Sunday.

### Turkish consulate, centres attacked

BONN (R) — Police said Tuesday they detained two Turkish nationals after assailants attacked four Turkish buildings in the northern city of Hanover. No one was injured when the attackers smashed windows at the Turkish consulate, a bank, a travel agency and a cultural centre and tried to hurl petrol bombs inside late Monday. The travel agency was the only target set on fire and police estimated damage at some 100,000 marks (\$67,980). Police said young Turkish nationalists carried out the attacks, but declined to say whether they were Kurds. A string of similar incidents in Hanover earlier this year was blamed on Kurds protesting against clashes between the Turkish military and Kurdish rebels. Turks, many of them recruited as workers in the 1960s and 1970s, are the biggest ethnic minority in Germany, numbering some 1.7 million in an overall population of about 80 million.

### Emir of Bahrain meets British minister

MANAMA (R) — British Defence Procurement Minister Jonathan Aitken, on a tour of four Gulf Arab states, had talks Tuesday with the emir of Bahrain, Sheikh Isa Bin Salman Al Khalifa. Mr. Aitken arrived in Bahrain Monday and a British diplomat said he planned to discuss joint exercises and any possible assistance Britain could give. The tour also includes Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and Oman. Bahrain was a British protectorate until it became independent in 1971 and has a long-standing defence pact with Britain. British naval ships call at the port and the two countries carry out joint naval exercises and training. The Gulf News Agency said Mr. Aitken and Sheikh Isa discussed current developments in the region and cooperation. The foreign and defence ministers of Bahrain also attended the talks.

### UNESCO says quake damaged Karnak temple

PARIS (R) — Egypt has notified the United Nations that part of the ancient temple of Karnak, one of the greatest Pharaonic monuments, was damaged by an earthquake which shook the country Monday, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) said Tuesday. The vast temple complex, built between the 20th and fourth centuries B.C., stands near the city of Luxor, 500 kilometres south of Cairo on the banks of the Nile. UNESCO Director General Federico Mayor expressed condolences in a message to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

## MOURNING NOTICE

The German Embassy in Amman has the sad duty to inform with profound grief that

**MR. WILLY BRANDT,**  
former Chancellor of the  
Federal Republic of Germany  
passed away on October 08th, 1992.  
Germany is mourning the architect of the  
"Ostpolitik" which led to the end of the  
cold war in Europe. Willy Brandt also  
excelled as a protagonist for a just  
balance between the interests of North  
and South. In 1971 he was awarded the  
Nobel Peace Prize.

For those who wish to convey their  
sympathy a book of condolences will be  
laid open in the German Ambassador's  
Residence (Jabal Tariq Street 5, near 5th  
Circle) Saturday, October 17 and Sun-  
day, October 18, 1992 between 10 a.m.  
and 1 p.m.

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

### JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

### PROGRAMME TWO

17:30 ..... Hemingway  
19:00 ..... News in French  
19:15 ..... Varieties  
19:30 ..... News in Hebrew  
20:00 ..... News in Arabic  
20:30 ..... Uncle Buck  
21:10 ..... Civil Wars  
22:00 ..... News in English  
22:30 ..... Movie of the week: "Babe"

### PRAYER TIMES

04:17 ..... Fajr  
05:34 ..... Sunrise (Summer) Dhuhr  
11:22 ..... Dhuhr  
14:38 ..... Asr  
17:10 ..... Maghreb  
18:27 ..... Isha

### CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swellish  
Tel. 810740  
Assemblies of God Church, Tel.  
632785.  
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.  
Church of the Annunciation Tel.  
637440.  
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757  
Terrence Church Tel. 622366  
Church of the Annunciation Tel.  
622541.

### Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 625443.

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331.

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261.

St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771251.

Armenian International Church Tel. 827981, 683326.

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-  
Day Saints Tel. 823824 and 659222.

Church of the Nazarene Tel. 675691.

### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of  
Meteorology.

It will continue to be hot and winds  
will be northeasterly moderate to  
fresh, causing dust in desert areas. In  
Amman, winds will be northerly moder-  
ate and seas calm.

Amman ..... 14 / 29  
Aqaba ..... 20 / 35  
Dahesh ..... 11 / 32  
Jordan Valley ..... 18 / 34

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman  
28, Aqaba 33. Humidity readings:  
Amman 15 per cent, Aqaba 20 per  
cent.

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

#### NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:  
Dr. Ghazi Ima' ..... 752405  
Dr. Mohammad A'ali ..... 752771  
Dr. Jamil Maraga ..... 776149  
Dr. Ghazi Zawahid ..... 736811  
First pharmacy ..... 661912  
Riviera pharmacy ..... 783336  
Al Amana pharmacy ..... 637025  
Nabouk pharmacy ..... 623672  
Al Salam pharmacy ..... 636730  
Yacoub pharmacy ..... 644945  
Samadani pharmacy ..... 637640  
Najib pharmacy ..... 847632

IRBID:  
Dr. Ahmad Bishawi ..... 273925  
Al Shara'a pharmacy (275825)

ZARQA:  
Dr. Khazim Jabari ..... 995405  
Ramsi pharmacy ..... 995119

KARAK:  
Dr. Nidal Masari ..... (-)

### Ma'ab pharmacy ..... 352170

SALT:  
Dr. Bashir Hilar ..... (-)  
Bar's pharmacy ..... (-)

### EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department ..... 661111  
Civil Defence: Immediate  
Rescue ..... 630341  
Civil Defence Emergency  
Rescue Police ..... 192, 601111, 637771  
Fire Brigade ..... 821228  
Blood Bank ..... 775121  
Highway Police ..... 843402  
Traffic Police ..... 896390  
Public Security Department ..... 630321  
Hotel Complaints ..... 602800  
Price Complaints ..... 661176  
Water and Sewerage  
Complaints ..... 897467  
Ammunition Supply  
Complaints ..... 787111  
Telephone Information  
(overseas assistance) ..... 121  
Overseas Calls ..... 600230  
Central Amman Telephone  
Reprints ..... 623101

### Abdell Telephone Repair ..... 661101

Jordan Television ..... 773111  
Radio Jordan ..... 774111  
Water Authority ..... 680100  
Jordan Electricity Authority ..... 815615  
Electric Power  
Company ..... 636381  
RJ Flight Information ..... 06-53200  
Queen Alia Intl. Airport ..... 06-53200

### HOSPITALS

AMMAN:  
Hussein Medical Centre ..... 813813/32  
Khadija Maternity, J. Amn ..... 642216  
Abdell Maternity, J. Amn ..... 642412  
Jabal Amman Maternity ..... 642362  
Mallat, J. Amman ..... 636140  
Palestine, Shamsat ..... 6641714  
Shamsat Hospital ..... 669131  
University Hospital ..... 845945  
Al-Munster Hospital ..... 6622779  
The Islamic, Abdell ..... 6661235  
Al-Ahli, Abdell ..... 6641646  
Italian, Al-Muhajirun ..... 7771015  
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh ..... 891611/25  
Queen Alia Hospital ..... 6624250  
Amn Hospital ..... 674132

### ZARQA:

Zarqa Govt. Hospital ..... (09)983323  
Zarqa National Hospital ..... (09)90560  
Ru Sina Hospital ..... (09)98732  
Al-Hikam Modern Hospital ..... (09)99790

### IRBID:

Princess Basmal Hospital ..... (03)75555  
Greek Catholic Hospital ..... (03)727275  
Ru Al-Nafes Hospital ..... (03)747100  
AQA:

Princess Haya Hospital ..... (03)514111

### FOR THE TRAVELLER

#### QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal  
Jordanian (RJ) Information depart-  
ment at the Queen Alia International  
Airport Tel. (06)53200-5, where it  
should always be verified.

### ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights  
(Terminal 1)  
06:05 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)  
06:15 ..... Doha, Muscat (RJ)  
06:45 ..... New Delhi (RJ)

### DEPARTURES

#### Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

06:15 ..... Beirut (RJ)  
07:00 ..... Aqaba (RJ)  
11:00 ..... Rome (RJ)  
11:15 ..... Montreal, Toronto (RJ)  
12:00 ..... Paris (RJ)  
12:30 ..... Athens (RJ)  
12:30 ..... Amsterdam, New York (RJ)  
12:35 ..... London (RJ)  
12:30 ..... Larissa (RJ)  
12:30 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
12:30 ..... Abu Dhabi (RJ)  
12:30 ..... Jeddah (RJ)  
12:45 ..... Bahrain Doha (RJ)  
21:30 ..... Doha, Muscat (RJ)  
21:45 ..... Kuala Lumpur, Jakarta (RJ)

### Other Flights (Terminal 2)

06:45 ..... Damascus, Paris (AF)  
06:15 ..... Beirut (ME)  
12:30 ..... Doha, Abu Dhabi, Muscat (GF)  
18:30 ..... Istanbul (GF)  
20:30 ..... Cairo (ME)

### Other Flights (Terminal 2)

11:50 ..... Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GF)  
17:25 ..... Istanbul (TK)  
19:35 ..... Cairo (ME)  
20:35 ..... Larissa (CY)

### MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in Jds per kg.

Apple (red) ..... 700 / 400  
Banana ..... 500 / 400  
Banana (Malaysian) ..... 450 / 400  
Broom ..... 100 / 300  
Cabbage ..... 130 / 80  
Carrot ..... 600 / 340  
Cauliflower ..... 350 / 250  
Cauliflower (large) ..... 140 / 100  
Cucumbers (small) ..... 250 / 200  
Eggplant ..... 250 / 120  
Garlic ..... 600 / 500  
Lemon ..... 90 / 40  
Marrow (large) ..... 220 / 170  
Marrow (small) ..... 160 / 100  
Onion (red) ..... 180 / 120  
Onion (dry) ..... 100 / 80  
Pepper (hot) ..... 220 / 160  
Pepper (sweet) ..... 160 / 100  
Potato ..... 300 / 250  
Tomato ..... 300 / 250  
Fig ..... 90 / 40  
Grape ..... 550 / 300  
Black Grapes ..... 400 / 340  
Green Grapes ..... 250 / 200  
Dates ..... 350 / 250  
Pomegranate ..... 600 / 500  
Spinach ..... 300 / 250



## Amman conference calls for liberation of Jerusalem

AMMAN (Petra) — The Administrative Council of the Organisation of Islamic Capitals and Cities opened its 17th meeting in Amman Wednesday to discuss the outcome of the Earth Summit held in Brazil in June and to review projects of concern to the organisation.

The opening addresses contained calls on the Islamic World to act towards saving the city of Jerusalem from Israeli occupation.

"We appeal to the citizens of Arab and Islamic nations to join their forces and unite their ranks in order to liberate the holy places and to protect Islamic rights," said Deputy Prime Minister and Transport Minister Ali Suheimat.

Mr. Suheimat, who stood in for His Majesty King Hussein at the opening of the three-day conference, said that the time had come for Arabs and Muslims to transcend any differences among themselves and shoulder their historic responsibilities in liberating their holy places.

"There is no doubt that you realise the dangers posed to the nation with the onslaught of foreign powers to dominate Arab and Islamic lands," said Mr. Suheimat.

"Only through solidarity and unity can the challenge be confronted," he said.

His call was echoed by Mohammad Bashir, mayor of Amman, who reminded the audience that the city of Jerusalem was being desecrated by Israel which is encroaching upon Islam's heritage.

As we speak, the Israelis pursue their conspiracies which are aimed at evicting Arab citizens from Jerusalem and obliterating the Arab and Islamic character of the city," Mr. Bashir said. "Jerusalem," he added, "is now in need more than ever for our material and moral support and for a brave stand that can end the injustice imposed on its Arab residents."

The head of the Arab Jerusalem delegation, Zaki Al Ghoul, told the conference that Jerusalem was "crying out for help from the Muslim nations."

"We are called on to rally our resources and unite our ranks to ensure the liberation of the holy city," said Mr. Ghoul.

The three-day meeting, which is attended by 20 mayors and governors of Islamic capitals, will cover discussions of Islamic architecture, and a report by the organisation's secretary general about applications by new cities wishing to join.



**OTTOMAN HOUSE RENOVATED:** The ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Jordan, Dr. Heinrich Reimers, officially inaugurated Tuesday a newly renovated Ottoman house in the ancient village of Umm Qais (above). The renovation of this house was funded by the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation, the German embassy said. The renovation is the latest effort made by Germany to assist Jordan in excavating and protecting the antique sites.

## Human rights groups, public figures protest Arabiyat's case against Qattan

By Sa'eda Kilani  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Voicing deep concern over what they see as a repression of freedom of expression, public figures, journalists and human rights activists in Amman sent letters Wednesday to Lower House of Parliament Speaker Abdul Latif Arabiyat protesting against a slander case the speaker has filed against the director of the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC), Iyad Qattan.

A letter from the Arab Organisation for Human Rights (AOHR) in Amman asked Dr. Arabiyat to accept freedom of expression and opinion as being one of the bases of the National Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

AOHR has assigned one of its members, lawyer Asma Khader, to represent the organisation in the trial of the case, which begins at the Court of Arbitration on Oct. 26.

Dr. Arabiyat decided last week to sue Mr. Qattan after the RCC director sent a letter to the House on Aug. 20 protesting the arrest of a number of citizens who objected to the indictment in August of former minister Mahmoud Al Hawaudeh on corruption charges.

The AOHR letter was one of many sent by members of the public to the Lower House. One was signed by 15 public figures, including journalists.

The letter said the signatories considered the action taken by Dr. Arabiyat as "undemocratic and (it) shows unwillingness to accept other's opinions."

"It also reflects a grave development indicating that the House is transformed to one using dictatorship against the people who advocate constructive criticism and reform," the letter said.

The letter also said that some members of the House were not consulted by Dr. Arabiyat before launching legal proceedings against Mr. Qattan.

Abdul Karim Dughmi, a deputy from Mafray and a former minister of labour who now serves as deputy speaker of the House, Tuesday criticised Mr. Qattan and demanded the resignation of the RCC director.

Mr. Qattan said Wednesday: "It is one way of launching a campaign against my reputation. It is not acceptable, particularly that a case has already been filed against me in a court of law."

## Australian delegation foresees increased trade ties with Jordan

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The head of a visiting Australian parliamentary delegation Andrew Charles Theophanous Wednesday called for an increase in Australia's imports of Jordanian phosphate.

Speaking at a meeting with Industry and Trade Minister Abdullah Ensour, Mr. Theophanous said he would submit a memorandum to the Australian government urging further imports from Jordan.

He also said that the Jordan and Australia Joint Committee should hold its meeting soon to help promote trade ties between the two countries. It is hoped that during His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan's imminent visit to Australia, a decision will be taken on the date of such meeting.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, Mr. Theophanous said:

"increasing our trade with Jordan is a big possibility ... Australian imports of Jordanian goods could increase dramatically. Australia's traditional supply of phosphate is drying up and Jordan's prices are very competitive," he added.

Dr. Ensour briefed the delegation on Jordan's losses as a result of the Gulf war and the negative effects on Jordan's economy from the embargo on Iraq which was an important trading partner. The minister also described the problems facing Jordan with hundreds of thousands of returning Jordanian expatriates. He underlined the need to bolster Jordanian-Australian trade links, and called for the launching of joint ventures.

In 1990 Australia exported to Jordan \$24 million worth of goods of which \$12 million was in livestock. In return, Australia bought Jordanian goods worth \$24 million in phosphates and fertilisers. Last month Jordan imported 75,000 sheep and exported 30,000 tonnes of phosphate.

There are plans to export another 30,000 tonnes later this week according to Jordan Phosphate Mines Company (JPMC) Director General Thabet Al Taher.

Mr. Taher said sales to Australia should be in the region of 100,000 tonnes of phosphate in 1992.

The Australian delegation Tuesday met with Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) officials and discussed the outcome of the sixth round of the Arab-Israeli peace talks in Washington.

Mr. Theophanous said the delegation which will visit Israel after a stop over in Egypt Sunday will press the Labour-led government to fulfil its promises in moving towards real peace in the Middle East. "We are on a fact finding mission and the delegation is not interested in platitudes and rhetoric," he said.

### HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Cabinet approves development projects

AMMAN (Petra) — The Council of Ministers has given its approval of 11 investment projects with a total capital of JD 13.4 million. These investment projects, which will create 658 jobs in Jordan, are to be considered development projects, entitling them to benefit from a set of privileges and to exemptions.

#### Refugees launch petition drive in support of right of return

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation representing Palestinian refugees living in Jordan Wednesday called at the U.N. offices in Amman and delivered a memorandum addressed to U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali and other U.N. officials, demanding that Palestinian refugees and displaced people be allowed return to their homeland in implementation of U.N. Security Council resolutions 194 of 1948 and 224 of 1967. The Palestinian refugees in Jordan, Syria and Lebanon are currently launching a petition drive seeking the signatures of world organisations in Amman, Damascus and Beirut to support the right of return. More than 400,000 signatures are being sought.

#### Red Crescent to offer free medical services in Iraq

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian Red Crescent Society, which offers free voluntary medical services in Iraq on Friday, Society doctors will offer medical treatment at Al Ratbeh and Al Ramadi towns in Iraq as a contribution towards alleviating the sufferings of the Iraqi people.

#### Joint Jordanian-Iraqi company to hold meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — The general assembly of the Joint Jordanian-Iraqi Land Transport Company will meet in Amman Sunday to discuss the company's present situation and future plans. The Iraqi delegation to the talks, led by Minister of Transport and Communications Abdul Sattar Al Maeni, will arrive Saturday.

#### CSCC opens branch in Fuheis

FUHEIS (Petra) — Minister of Supply Mohammad Saqqaf Wednesday opened a new branch for the Jordan Civil Service Consumer Corporation (CSCC) to offer services to the people of Fuheis and Maheh, along with neighbouring villages. In a speech at the ceremony, Mr. Saqqaf said other branches will be opened soon at Shobak and Ghor Safi. He said that the corporation has, to date, opened 29 branches in various regions. The corporation's services benefit government employees and their families.

#### Free-medical day to be organised in Mafray

MAFRAQ (Petra) — Medical faculties at the University of Jordan are Thursday organising a free medical day in Mafray Governorate as a show of rejoice over the return of His Majesty King Hussein to Amman after a successful surgical operation in the United States. Children in the rural areas around Mafray will benefit most from the medical services, along with pregnant women. Dental services will also be offered to the local citizens.

## Medical improvements slash the number of infant deaths, conference announces

By Maha Addasi  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The infant mortality rate (IMR) in Jordan has been significantly reduced in the past few years because of improved primary health care and health education, Jordan Medical Association President Ismaeq Maraqa, said Wednesday.

Addressing the second Obstetrics and Gynaecology Congress that started at the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC) Wednesday, Dr. Maraqa revealed that IMR had come down from 80 per 1,000 live births to 35 per 1,000 in the past few years.

"This achievement is a great incentive to do more," Dr. Maraqa said. "It is important to go along with medical improvements to further reduce infant mortality rates and also maternal mortality rate which is an important indicator of health care that must be taken into consideration," he added.

Minister of Health Aref Bataineh, under whose patron-



Aref Bataineh

"But this is a task that requires the intensive and combined efforts of various areas, which I hope will be translated into concrete measures that will lead to the development of medical justice," Dr. Bataineh said.

The three-day congress consists of working papers handling subjects such as management of premature labour, maternal mortality, obstetrical infections, induction of labour, foetal growth retardation and other subjects presented by participants from Jordan, Iraq, Egypt, the UK and the USA, Syria and representative of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) office for the Middle East and North Africa region.

Dr. Falah Khalifeh, president of the Society of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, said that a pan-Arab society for obstetrics and gynaecology will probably be established soon.

## Children to march on Amman

By Hind-Lara Maing  
Special to The Jordan Times

AMMAN — More than one thousand children will be participating in a festive walk organised by the Ministry of Culture Friday. The walk, patronised by Her Majesty Queen Noor, is part of a promotional campaign for the First Jordanian Children's Theatre Festival which begins on 26 October.

For the walk, children will dress in costumes and walk with their parents, and other interested adults, from the Royal Cultural Centre at ten o'clock on Friday morning. On reaching the King Abdullah Gardens, a variety show will be open to members of the public.

Horsemen from the Public Security Department, the Army Band, famous Jordanian actors and actresses, costumed cartoon characters, and local folkloric dance troupes will accompany the children on the walk.

## Russian envoy leaves

AMMAN (Petra) — Russian Minister of Foreign Economic Relations Peter Avin and an accompanying economic delegation left Amman for Moscow Wednesday after a two-day visit during which he met with His Majesty King Hussein and Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker.

Mr. Avin also held talks with officials at the ministries of industry and trade and finance on ways of enhancing bilateral cooperation. The Russian minister, in a statement prior to his departure, commended the Jordanian-Russian relations, saying that these should develop for the benefit of the Jordanian and Russian peoples.

He told the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that the two countries have opened a new page in their relations with an agreement on settling Jordan's debts to Russia. The agreement was signed at the Ministry of Finance Tuesday. According to the agreement, Jordan will export raw materials and industrial products to Russia and other former Soviet Republics in payment of debts.

## Contracts signed for health, education and social centres

AMMAN (Petra) — The Housing and Urban Development Department (HUDD) Wednesday awarded three contracts worth JD 1.8 million to local firms to build educational, health and social centres at housing projects currently underway in the Kingdom.

Under the terms of the agreements the centres should be completed by the time the housing units have been built and ready for occupancy.

According to HUDD Director-General Youssef Hyasat, the centres will be located on the housing with that in Irbid through a two-kilometre sewer system at the Governorate, and Ruseifa north-east of Amman.

Mr. Hyasat, who signed the agreements with the general managers of the three local firms, explained that in Beit Ras two schools, a community and health centre will be built at the cost of JD 1.4 million.

A handicraft centre, costing JD 94,000, will be constructed in Um Nuwara which will include 43 workshops, and a shopping centre in Ruseifa.

According to Mr. Hyasat, the third contract will involve linking the sewers network at Beit Ras with that in Irbid through a two-kilometre sewer system at the Governorate, and Ruseifa north-east of Amman. The total cost of JD 322,000.

## OBITUARY

The Darwazah family in Jordan mourns with deep sorrow their senior family member the late **Haj Taleb Mahmoud Darwazah** father of Haj Khaled, Samih, Zahi, Mohammad. The late Mr. Darwazah passed away Wednesday Oct. 14 at the age of 92. Condolences are offered to the Darwazah family at the deceased son's residence Haj Khaled, located at Shmeisani, Dr. Mohammad Bashir Street. Cables to: P.O. Box 182400

**Bazaar...Bazaar...Charity Bazaar**  
**The Jordanian Save The Children Fund**  
To all charitable people: Help support this fund-raising campaign.  
To save a needy child, provide him with clothes or food by buying goods, products and foods on sale, less than the actual price, at the Charity Bazaar organised and patronised by the Modern Education Schools.  
Many recreational and musical activities will be awaiting for you while shopping.  
**Date and time: Friday 16.10.92**  
**from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.**  
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**The National Music Conservatory/ Noor Al Hussein Foundation**  
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## WHAT'S GOING ON EXHIBITIONS

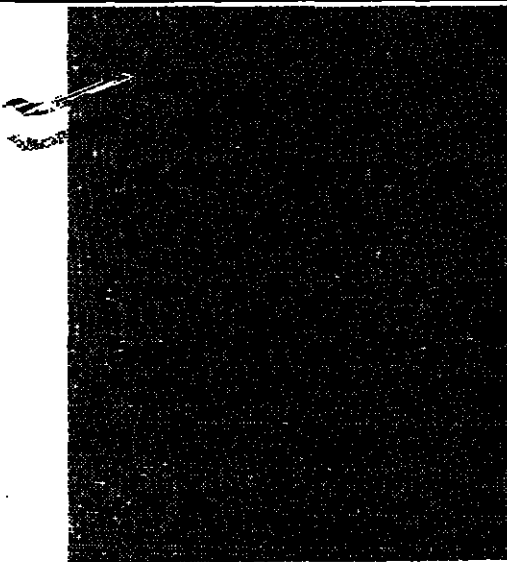
- Exhibition of paintings and sculptures by artist Nadem at the French Cultural Centre.
- Exhibition of oil and water-colour paintings entitled "Concepts in the Structure of Space" by Dr. George Sayegh at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation Gallery — (Open 10 a.m. till 8 p.m.)
- Poster exhibition of the Beatles at the British Council.
- Exhibition of paintings by Iraqi artist Amer Fatouhi at Baladna Art Gallery.
- Exhibition by Jordanian artist Khaled Khreis at the Spanish Cultural Centre.

### THEATRE

- The Arab adaptation of Samuel Becket's play "Waiting for Godot" at Al Mashini Theatre, Jabal Lawzeh — 7:30 p.m.

### FILM

- Feature film entitled "High Noon" at the American Centre — 5 p.m.



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## Slowly but surely

HIS MAJESTY King Hussein's visit to Egypt Wednesday, though coming at an unfortunate occasion following the earthquake disaster in our sister country, represents a significant step in the quest towards Arab reconciliation and the closing of Arab ranks.

In the face of the momentous challenges that confront the Arab Nation at the present, Jordan has sought to rally the Arabs not as some would contend, to satisfy its own political and economic needs, but because the Kingdom deeply realises the consequences of the absence of Arab consensus and solidarity. Arab leaderships must have realised by now that lack of coherence in the Arab position had always led to gaps through which the antagonists of this nation have used to undermine Arab interests. Whether it is the Gulf crisis and its aftermath, the peace process with all its traps or the scattered mini-conflicts in the Gulf, the dangers-gathering forces are many and multiplying.

Unless the Arabs sit together, debate the causes of their failures and ailments, listen to the wisdom among them and strive to reach consensus on our shared objectives, we will achieve very little in our negotiations with Israel or in disputes or cooperation with others. Unless we get our act together, we will also certainly find ourselves marginalised in the new world order that everybody talks about but nobody defines with any precision.

Egypt in the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s played a leading role in Arab politics, at times dividing but at others unifying. Jordan has always looked at the most populous Arab country with its strategic position as the country that will always endeavour to rally the Arabs. It was unfortunate that the Gulf crisis has weakened Arab solidarity and made cracks in the Arab front.

It is hoped now that the King's brief visit to Cairo and King Hassan of Morocco's intended tour in the east Mediterranean Arab countries and Egypt would pave the road for a new chapter in Arab relations.

Some people might want to contend that the Arab Nation will never recover after the Gulf war, but development so far has only enforced the notion that the Arabs are progressing albeit that progress requires its pains and time.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'I Arabic daily Wednesday commented on the continuing hunger strike by Arab detainees in Israeli jails and the false statements given by Israeli government leaders about the situation. No one can be fooled by the Israeli police minister's statements that the hunger strike was aimed at aborting the Arab-Israeli peace process due to resume in Washington on Oct. 21, said the paper. Such a statement, it said, is indeed designed to present the strike as a hostile act on the part of the Palestinians. The detainees' strike, the paper said, is being staged in protest against the deplorable conditions in the jails and the inhuman treatment accorded to the inmates. Israeli government officials' statements in this regard cannot deceive any one and the whole world realises the horrible conditions inside Israeli prisons which prompt the detainees to act, said the daily. If the peace process is hampered, it said, it is because of Israel's intransigent position and its refusal to implement U.N. resolution. The nice words given sometimes by Israeli leaders about their desire to reach peace with the Arabs and secure stability in the region can deceive no Arabs and no Palestinians, added the paper. It is only through deeds and compliance with the requirements of the aspired peace that such situation can come about, the paper said. Unless Israel stops its inhuman practices and unless it declares its serious intention to end the occupation and co-exist with the Arab countries, peace remains out of reach.

A COLUMNIST in Al Dustour tackled the case of the 23-year-old secondary school teacher in Naour, near Amman, who was attacked by three assailants for no reason except for carrying out his duty towards his students. It was a brutal attack and an attempted murder executed by three men against a teacher returning home from work, said Mohammad Daoud. The writer said this assault should be treated with the firmest possible manner and the assailants must be severely punished for this crime. Attacks on teachers seldom occur in the Jordanian society, but the fact that the attack happened requires immediate reaction on the part of the authorities so as to prevent any recurrence in other schools, he demanded. The victim was a member of a disciplinary panel which ordered the transfer of the student to another school for his bad behaviour, something that can happen anywhere around the country, the writer added. He said that teachers should be able to carry out their work assured of their safety at school and outside its premises so that the education process can follow its normal course.

## Reflections

# Crystals in the dark: Towards a rational system of incentives

A FORTNIGHT ago, in the first part of "Crystals in the dark", a comparison was made between the fastest growing publicly traded companies (a group of six manufacturers) and all other manufacturing firms listed on the stock exchange. Two profiles emerged from under the debris of numbers. One of a hard working and ambitious organisation, set on expansion through investment and exports (69 per cent of sales). The other of a slothful hit and run operator who, having chosen the comforts of the protected home market, was hit hardest by falling demand during the recession.

	The group of six	All other listed manufacturers
Sales growth (1986-1990)	250%	46%
Export ratio	69%	13%
Dividends payout ratio	33%	71%
Growth of fixed assets (1986-1990)*	48%	(22%)
Effective tax rate (1986-1990)	28%	12%

The second profile depicts the typical Jordanian company; a feeble "corporate" character who acquired a lot of nasty habits over two decades of state patronage, high tariffs, low competition, and inward looking investment and trade policies. Poor sales growth, low export to sales ratio (13 per cent), disinvestment, and a predilection to short-termism are just a few of his vices. Fattened on government privileges and handouts and intoxicated by the aroma of a captive consumer, he developed several phobias as well in his delirious state of mind. Fear of risk and investment and crystallophobia are his most debilitating mental handicaps.

Rehabilitation is a complicated task. Bringing down tariff rates any further may cause withdrawal shocks that can kill the patient. Such a treatment will also jeopardise the objective of balancing the budget and whittle away precious foreign reserves. Moreover, it will do nothing to reform companies in services and other sectors.

A better approach is group therapy. Expert counselling, large doses of competition, and vigorous daily exercises in the open air are far more effective means of nursing the patient into physical fitness and sharpening his corporate wits. If administered properly, therapy should cure him from craving after the quick fixes of cheap and easy profits and raise his sight upward and towards the vast horizons of foreign markets.

But first, the therapists and their methods must be selected

carefully. It would be the height of insincerity and bad taste if those same patronising orderlies who have pushed our companies into the dark cellars of underachievement should be the ones assigned to lead them out again onto the fields of contest. Sneers and bitter laughter would be the only response emanating from below.

Rehabilitation is to be conducted by specialists who have a clear understanding of the problem and the purpose of their mission. Above all, they must have an unwavering faith in private endeavour and a healthy respect for the powers of greed (or the pursuit of self-interest, if you like) to create value when channelled properly. Only by trusting the private sector to respond to market signals and follow up on commercial opportunities can the overseers of the economy begin to understand the difference between market failure and policy failure or appreciate the distinction between intervention and substitution. Only then will they stop blaming the private sector for all economic shortcomings and start placing the blame where it had always belonged: on faulty signals and short-sighted policies.

A lesson in economic history has been learned recently when the fallacy of the socialist system was so thoroughly exposed. An economy that is built on things other than the profit motive is bound to collapse eventually like a house of cards. The profit motive is the engine of lasting economic prosperity; the policy maker is the driver. This symbiotic relationship which exists in all successful economies has yet to be fully appreciated here in Jordan. Instead, the private sector has been denounced and vilified by frustrated officials for essentially pursuing the short-term gains and opportunities made available to it by government policies or the lack of them. In frustration, government has chosen in the not too distant past to sidestep and substitute the private sector, thus marginalising it even further and driving away investments.

More recently, officials have opted for platitudes about encouraging the private sector. Such talk, while signalling a shift away from the policies of substitution, still smacks of the patronising Big Brother attitude. The private sector is not some lazy bum waiting for encouragement or more handouts. It is an engine going around in circles, waiting to be steered dexterously by clear-eyed drivers.

The central task for policymakers is to foster a long-term perspective regarding profits. If successful, profit maximisation will then become an exercise about maximising the present value of a stream of earnings extending twenty or thirty years into the future. This will require producers to aim for maximising market share through exports and generous investment in technology, labour, and capital. When that is achieved, policymakers can proudly claim to have harnessed the profit motive in the service of

national goals and both the public and private sectors will coexist happily ever after.

As for the immediate problem at hand, the tax incentives available to manufacturers must be modified to steer behaviour in the right direction. Specifically, we need to condition behaviour in the image of a real live model: The group of six. This is done by creating rewards for desired behaviour and by penalising nasty habits. Currently, the opposite is true. The group of six pays an effective tax rate of 28 per cent for their labour while all the others get away with only 12 per cent.

The problem started with the tariff protection. It has created a bias against both exports and investment because producers could cater to a protected and safe local market at high monopolistic prices which, in turn, negate any incentives to invest in productivity and cost efficiency. Furthermore, the small size of the local market means that producers can reach production targets at a minimum investment in capacity and have little use for investment in expansion and growth.

To top it all off, these same producers were given tax exemptions under the Encouragement of Investment Law for merely setting up shop. This has reinforced the bias inherent in the tariff protection.

Three steps are required to change all that. First, the tax holidays offered to manufacturers under the Encouragement of Investment Law must be scrapped. Such exemptions should be given only to companies setting up shop in special export processing zones. Second, the income tax law should be modified to exempt all export profits from taxation; provide tax deferral to retained and reinvested earnings; allow accelerated depreciation and depreciation credits for machinery and equipment and other fixed assets (which would also serve the purpose of encouraging new establishments); and offer tax allowances for training, marketing, and development costs. Finally, tariffs and production taxes (including sales taxes taken at the source) must be flexible and subject to upward and downward adjustments in order to discriminate between efficient and inefficient manufactured products. Details of such a system can be worked out in a manner guaranteeing fairness, objectivity, and automaticity (the Taiwanese system may be considered as an example). The objective is to make tariffs a purely revenue collecting tool and not a cause of inefficiency and export-aversion.

These steps are necessary but not sufficient. The task of rehabilitation, we repeat, is a complicated one and a special and overarching effort must be made. After all, export-led growth means that we will be competing with more advanced economies in cut-throat rivalry. Yet, it is only on the fields of merit that Jordanians can exceed themselves and show the world what this small and gritty nation is really made of: pure gold, I dare say.

# A north-south crisis for Europe

By Lawrence Freedman



THE IDEA that we are heading towards a two-speed Europe is blinding us to the depth of the crisis facing the EC. It is not just that an economic bloc may be created that excludes the weaker states, including Britain. What is ultimately at stake is the balance of power in Europe, and specifically the Franco-German relationship.

Since Konrad Adenauer's celebrated meeting with Charles de Gaulle in 1963, it is the Bonn-Paris axis that has provided the basis for stability in Western Europe. Now there is a danger that it will collapse. Instead of complaining about Exchange Rate Mechanism "fault-lines," serious though they may be, the British government should be worrying about a political fault-line; one that threatens to split Europe between a German-dominated north and a weakened south whose concerns will no longer receive a proper hearing in Brussels.

Here is how such a north-south divide could emerge, with the streamlining of the Exchange Rate Mechanism (ERM). The economic elite of the community is defined as those members — Benelux, Germany and France — that are able to meet the tests set by the Bundesbank. The prospect that they will form an inner core of a wider union is being used to threaten the others, especially the British.

All this assumes that the elite can stick together through what may still be quite a few months of extremely high German interest rates. But let us suppose that success leads naturally to an effective currency union, based on far higher cooperation than that provided by the current European Monetary System.

This elite would still be a wholly inadequate basis for a political community. The British tend to argue this point in terms of their own exclusion, but the problem really is that the Franco-German

alliance would become a far more unequal affair. The replacement of Franco-German enmity with close cooperation, if not quite amity, is one of the EC's great achievements, born of a recognition that these two great states must never fall out again if Western Europe is to avoid the catastrophic wars of its past. This objective transcends anything either country may wish to achieve in its relations with Britain.

However, the French referendum debate and the battle for the franc, showed how compromised the Franco-German relationship had become. The Bundesbank demonstrated its commitment to the existing parity, but the fall-

out has fundamentally altered the EC balance of power. The ERM's inner core is now predominantly northern European, with Sweden, Austria and Switzerland closely associated from outside the community.

Thus it contains the countries over which Germany exercises the greatest influence. Such a grouping is too restricted for France. Its main problems are not that Britain is excluded, but that the EC's southern flank is now generally extremely weak. Italy is struggling to extricate itself from a state-threatening crisis; the Spanish and Portuguese currencies are under huge pressure; and Greece, out of sight economical-

ly, is in danger of getting drawn further into the Balkans imbroglio.

A weakened southern Europe leaves Paris less able to balance the German bloc, or find natural allies when it comes to ensuring that Mediterranean issues — from illegal immigration to Islamic fundamentalism in the Maghreb — get a proper hearing. Tension between northern and southern Europe over political priorities and the allocation of resources is unavoidable.

Germany looks eastwards and sees the most horrendous challenges, even as it struggles to incorporate the former East Germany. The southern states fear that Germany will attempt to

solve these problems at their expense; for example, by cutting community funds to the poorer states.

Germany's reputation in southern Europe has not been helped by its role in the Balkan débacle. Bonn's premature recognition of Croatia last December, even though Zagreb had failed to meet the community's own criteria on minority rights, was the last straw.

Whatever Germany can offer economically, it cannot match militarily. And it is in the Mediterranean area that the most serious military challenges to the West are likely to emerge. Germany is inhibited by its history and its constitution; Britain and

France are the only significant military powers in the European Community, their membership of the United Nations Security Council requiring close cooperation.

Even before the ERM débacle, French hopes of using its alliance with Germany as the basis of a European defence entity had been dampened. Progress in setting up the Franco-German brigade has been slow. Serious doubts have been voiced about its role: it is unlikely, for instance, to participate in any of the contingencies that Europe might face, even if German forces were authorised to fight outside the NATO area.

The fact that Germany is abandoning the European Fighter Aircraft deal with Britain has raised doubts about its commitment to maintaining modern armed forces. Events in the Balkans are a reminder that it is difficult to mount any serious military operation without active American support. It has become pointless, therefore, to push the community forward as a credible alternative to NATO. Only last week the French Defence Minister, Pierre Joxe, was talking about a greater French role in NATO's political structures, if not yet its military command; and he and his British counterpart, Malcolm Rifkind, mentioned Franco-British cooperation.

If Germany and France cannot cooperate within the ERM, little else will hold their alliance together. And if the two countries start pulling in different directions, life will become more difficult for their partners. But this would at least reinforce the importance of maintaining the wider framework of the European Community.

It is becoming harder for the EC to resolve the national differences that triggered past conflicts. But it is still the best hope for containing them — The Independent.

# Israel's peace envoy seeks new start with Syria

By Annika Savill

ISRAEL'S chief negotiator with Syria has called for President Hafez Al Assad to take further confidence-building measures to help achieve a settlement with Israel, suggesting the Syrian leader might go on television to speak in Arabic about peace with the Jewish state.

Itamar Rabinovich, who epitomises Israel's charm offensive towards Syria since Labour's election victory this summer, predicted that a settlement with Syria might be reached within "six months to a year." He said that the bilateral talks with Syria had hit a "hard rock" when the Syrians insisted on full Israeli withdrawal from the Golan

Heights before going further. Israel was demanding clarification from Syria on what it meant by "peace."

"Assad has considerable flexibility at home. If Assad could take Syria to war against Iraq together with Saudi Arabia and the United States, Assad has considerable flexibility," said Mr. Rabinovich, a leading scholar on Syria who was appointed to take over the talks in August.

Asked what Mr. Assad could do to persuade public opinion on both sides that he was serious about peace, Mr. Rabinovich said, "Take the Syrian media, for example. Let him speak in Arabic on television about peace. He

added: "Assad has been adjusting his people to peace very slowly. We're all for subtlety, but not in this case."

Mr. Rabinovich made clear he was careful not to push the Syrian leader too hard in any respect, including the Israeli desire for a summit between Yitzhak Rabin and Mr. Assad: "We think it would be better to begin with a summit meeting. Assad doesn't have to come to Jerusalem, and Mr. Rabin doesn't have to go to Damascus, it could be held elsewhere. But if Syria is not interested, we will not insist."

The same approach, devoid of the fist-thumping favoured by the old Likud guard, applied to

Syria's refusal to consider an interim settlement: "Syria is totally opposed to it right now... Since they are, we are not pushing."

The approach is characteristic of the Tel Aviv University rector who has devoted much of his career to studying the many lost opportunities in Arab-Israeli relations since the foundation of the Jewish state. Last year he published *The Road Not Taken*, focusing particularly on the negotiations in 1949-52 — the period during which the Arab-Israeli conflict, as the world has known it for four decades, began to take shape.

Since his appointment Mr. Rabinovich — aptly described as

a "domish charmer" — has made a tangible mark. In addition to the official negotiating language of English, he uses fluent Arabic and French ("particularly for the older generation of Syrians) to explain nuances. Upon taking the job he quickly created a stir by declaring that all components of U.N. Resolution 242 — which involves territorial concessions — were "applicable" to the talks. Israel has long described retaining the Golan as indispensable to its security.

Israel's tactic in negotiations with its Arab foes has long been recognised as a hard-man, soft-man approach — that whatever

the conciliatory statements made by some representatives of the government, the policy pursued remains unalterably hardline.

Under Likud, many envoys saw the agreements they had reached abroad subsequently torn up at home. Regarded as more dovish than his prime minister, Mr. Rabinovich emphasised that "it is the government which makes the decisions. I now see, and work closely with Rabin."

The writer is diplomatic editor of the British newspaper *The Independent*, from which this article is reprinted.



## Photos help to immortalise Rose-red city

By Laney Salisbury

Special to the Jordan Times  
AMMAN — It is often best to step back from a place to appreciate its beauty. So, photographer Jane

Taylor boarded a helicopter and soared to the sky to capture the moonscapes and wadis of Petra — a city whose own well-known parts overshadow its whole. "Aerial photography can

give a sense of magic that no ground shot can equal," Ms. Taylor said. "As for a place like Petra, aerial photography gives you a clue as to why the city was established in the middle of those amazing mountains, where access was difficult. You get a sense of the drama of the city that you don't necessarily see on the ground," she said.

Predominately aerial photographs, Ms. Taylor's 30-photo exhibit at the Marriott Hotel also offers a chance to step back — into the dimension of time — 30,000 years to when a vast cataclysm sent a geological gash from Syria to Africa, creating the Petra basin and its rugged crags.

In one photo, the dagger sharp spine of the Great Rift pierces southward before plunging beneath the Red Sea. In another, the flat top mountain of Umma Bierra balances in fragile equilibrium with the city's downtown.

A few images away, the year jumping to about 1100 B.C., the shrine of Haroun is silhouetted against the purple sulphur light of a darkening summer sky; the wind-blown sand of a Wadi Mousa land scape, where Moses is said to have struck water from a rock, is arrested.

Author of *High Above Jordan*, Ms. Taylor shot most of her pictures before the Gulf War erupted and finished last December at a time when tourists still shunned the rose-red city.

Her photographs are to be incorporated into a book on Petra.

"The absence of people was an advantage," said the British-born photographer. "Bedouins reinhabited their caves and Western tourists were gone — I felt I had the opportunity to see Petra as it used to be."

In the mid 80's the government relocated Bedouins from caves to housing settlements outside Petra proper as part of a tourism-improvement project.

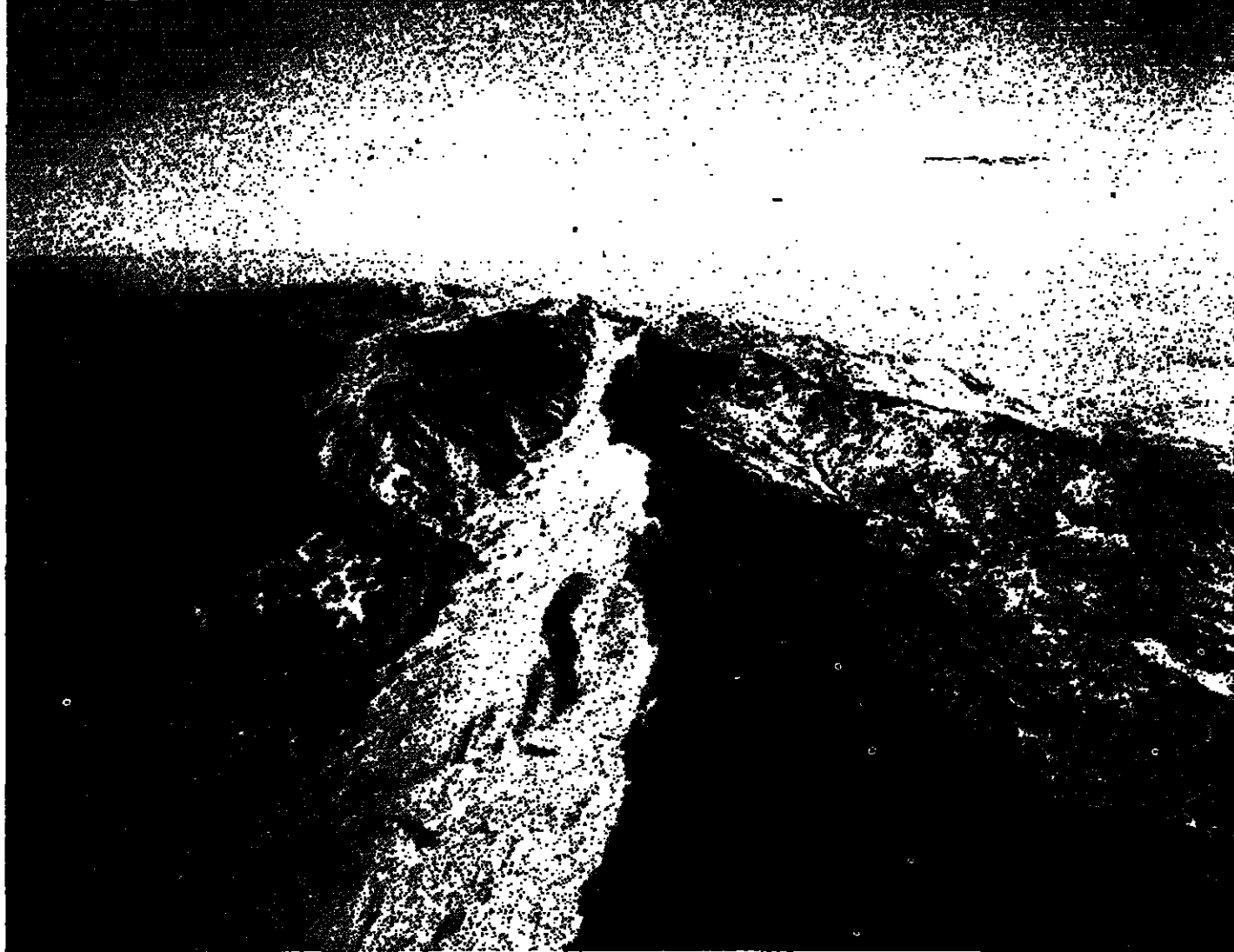
Perhaps it was part of that isolation and lofty vantage point that helped Ms. Taylor impart the ancient grace and mystery of Petra. Also pictured are the mountains where the first Nabateans filtered across in 580 B.C., the towering pillars of the mythical Treasury carved into bluish colour rock and the few cloistered wadis plush with the red of oleander and the green rage of grass.

But the photos cannot be viewed without remembering archaeologist Ken Russell, whose excavations and research at Petra unlocked history for colleagues and tourists. One month before his sudden death in May 1992, Mr. Russell unearthed a Byzantine church that could be the cathedral of the Episcopal See of Third Palestine.

The Province of Third Palestine was formed in the 4th century when the former Roman provinces of Palestine and Arabia were reorganised, with southern Jordan, the Negev Desert and the Sinai Peninsula placed together.

Two of the exhibition photographs were taken by Mr. Russell.

He said: "Petra was the great love



The Great Rift pierces southwards before plunging beneath the Red Sea

of his (Mr. Russell's) life. He knew every inch of it, including its culture and the life of the Bedouin.

"He was generous in sharing his knowledge and ideas of Petra. He had historical, archaeological and artistic information. But he also took

the trouble to show me the wonderful places off the route," Ms. Taylor said.

The exhibition is partly sponsored by the Kenneth Russell Memorial Trust, set up by Mr. Russell's colleagues and friends to protect Jordan's archaeological

heritage. Time may have stood still for Mr. Russell, but through photographs inspired by him, "the rose-red city half as old as time" will live on.



Bedouin children from the Bidul tribe use centuries-old transport

## 'Petra belongs to the world'

By Ica Wahbeh  
Jordan Times Staff Reporters

AMMAN — Petra, the mysterious city that stirred the interest and imagination of many a visitor, is an important point on the agenda of another world body, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).

Having decided that the globe's most important places belong to everybody, UNESCO has started a "world heritage" programme whereby the places on the list are immortalised on film. Its precious footage will be shown everywhere around the world.

Commissioned by UNESCO to perform the task, independent French company, Modern Productions, is started shooting 52-minute-long documentaries

about the 12 places on the list. After Fez, Morocco, filming started in Petra.

The French team, headed by Olivier Descamps, director and producer, has three other members: Laurent Rabouille, cameraman; Florence Monique, assistant; and Max Lacour, sound engineer. To these permanent members local help is assigned in different countries for different purposes. In Jordan, Ahmad Al Ensour, from JTV was the "very helpful" assistant to the French, acting mainly as an interpreter and fixer.

Mr. Descamps told the Jordan Times that his team was very grateful to the Jordanian authorities for the support extended. Calling it a co-production, he said the Ministry of Tourism and the Department of Antiquities "provided all the help; we could not have made the film without the good will of the

Jordanian government."

Help also came from unexpected quarters. The Armed Forces twice gave the team a helicopter for aerial filming, a thing the French director seems to have highly appreciated.

The aim of the whole exercise is, surprisingly, not that of showing the precarious stage most of the monuments of the world are in and start a campaign of awareness-raising and fund-collecting. It is simply to "let the whole world know that there are strong points of other civilisations."

Once the reels have been shown, "sensibilities will be touched and later people will take a course (of action)," said Mr. Descamps.

While stressing that it is not going to be a didactic documentary, the French director says he is going to underline "the immense sur-

prise at the discovery of Petra."

"I want to recreate the feeling I had, make people fall in love with the place," he said. "And through the rhythm of the image I will give life to the city, to the general atmosphere and the fact that you feel comfortable where you are. What impressed me most in Petra is an atmosphere — magic without discussion — a silence, something that makes you want to sit for a while and think."

Impressions about the city did not, however, prevent Mr. Descamps from being "amazed" by the bedouins in the area. "They have a love for Petra, the place of their birth and part of their past and future. They are very sensitive to it and display a great joie de vivre," he said.

The team, for the second time in Jordan, has left for France but will be back for

two more weeks to work on the script. It will be prepared by the French team with major input from the Department of Antiquities. Dr. Fawzi Zayadine, a specialist on Petra, will greatly contribute to the text.

The work demands, besides skill and artistic talents, a titanic effort. Eight hours of shooting will eventually be compressed into 52 minutes of documentary.

The film will be presented in French, English and Arabic versions by 1994. The documentaries will come out in series and UNESCO will use them to promote the places. The French team will be responsible for marketing them. The aim, once more the producer says, is to "show them on all televisions of the world."

Besides Morocco and Jordan, the countries where there are places covered under the heritage program-

me are: Egypt (Abu Simbel), Russia (Leningrad), India (Agra), Ecuador (Quito), Sri Lanka (Sigirya), France (Arles), Cambodia (Angkor), Greece (Delphi), Mexico (Maya Routes) and Yemen (Sana).

The task seems to entail a gigantic effort, but the relaxed look of the head of the French team shows it is a job done out of love. And so far things, at least in Jordan, seem to have gone without a hitch.

"The help was tremendous. We found Jordan and Jordanians extremely easy to fall in love with," said Mr. Descamps, adding that he will come back "to visit, for a holiday".

"My team was very impressed. They had a great time working but also enjoying their stay here. Jordanians are a very warm, nice people," he said.

### Book review

## Smothered in tutelage

Israel And Africa:  
The Problematic Friendship  
By Joel Peters

T.B. Tauris, London 1992, £35

The world has been waiting for a good book about Israel's relations with Africa — one that would probe the mythology surrounding Israeli development aid and assess the role of Israeli military aid in prolonging hated African dictatorships. The publication of Joel Peters' book has not ended the wait. It is atrociously written, seriously out of date and smothered in Israeli tutelage.

In his preface Peters says he spent two years on a fellowship at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem where he "redrafted" his doctoral thesis to produce the book. He thanks a range of Israeli academics and former officials for generously helping him. And to the best of his ability, Peters returns the favour. His discussion of the work of the Israeli development experts who descended on post-colonial Africa echoes the pitches of Israel and its supporters when they go angling for Western funds to finance Israeli projects in developing countries. But Peters ignores the available analyses and anecdotal evidence indicating that many of Israel's vaunted aid projects failed, some were only meant for show and others served as intelligence fronts.

Peters' susceptibility to Israeli tutelage is especially evident in his narration of the "trauma" of 1973, when all but three states in the thrall of South Africa severed diplomatic ties with Israel. He trots out several favourite Israeli explanations for the rupture: "The Arabs" pressured the Africans into supporting their cause; African governments were, at the time, turning against the West and, increasingly, identifying Israel with Western policies; African states were alarmed by Israel's occupation of territory seized by force. (Israel's occupation of the Sinai, African territory, was cited by the Organisation of African Unity in its call for a diplomatic embargo of Israel.) Some of the reasons Peters advances are valid. But any coherent argument he may have intended to make cannot be isolated from his sordid verbiage and his inability to distinguish the consequential from the trivial.

Peters' chapter on Israel's efforts, beginning in 1981, to regain its diplomatic standing in Africa is particularly difficult to navigate. Try this: "At this point, Israel launched a vigorous diplomatic campaign in Africa, which replaced its previous policy that it was the Africans, and not they, that should initiate the resumption of diplomatic ties." Anyone who makes it through Peters' litany of insignificant events in the early years of the decade is going to be very annoyed to find that, although the book was published in 1992, his account ends in 1989, shortly before the collapse of the Soviet Union brought such important states as Angola and Nigeria into Israel's diplomatic grasp.

Peters' chapter on Israel and South Africa ends even earlier, in 1987, two years before news reports, confirmed by U.S. officials, revealed the enormity of the military collaboration between the two states. Peters is in the ludicrous position of parroting propaganda that Israel itself has had to abandon, most notably the pretence that Israel redeemed its anti-apartheid credentials by aiding Inkatha leader Gatsha Buthelezi. In mid-1991 South Africa newspapers began reporting that the white minority government had funded Inkatha and the South African military and Israel had trained his murderous gangs — Middle East International.

Jane Hunter

## Letters in space — giving meaning to abstract

By Ica Wahbeh

Jordan Times Staff Reporter  
AMMAN — In the well-lit and aired, white rooms of the Spanish Cultural Centre the natural wood-paneled canvases of Khalid Khreis are ideally made to and out.

The artist, in the avant-garde of the Jordanian artists, is well-known to the public, being very active in the artistic scene. A doctoral student in Barcelona, his thesis researches "the letter and its function" in art. The artist's fascination with letters and calligraphy is evident throughout his works this last exhibition.

The first impression the abstract paintings leave on the viewer is that of peace and serenity. The pastel colors are calm yet bringing me sort of life and movement to the static paintings. A soupcon of dusk pink,

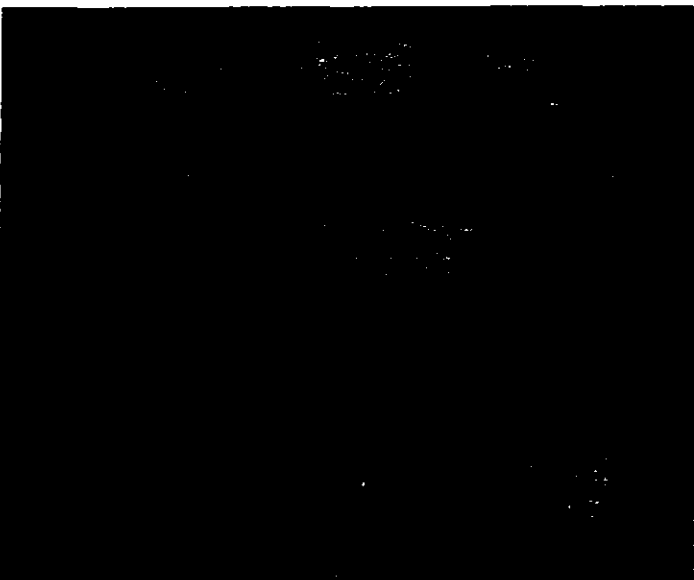
muted orange, brick and turquoise are creating bright spots on the mostly grey-octre background.

The unidimensional paintings contain a chain of experiences realised in watercolours, acrylic and ink on paper.

The artist delves into the rhythmic of the Arabic writing by extensively using letters. The letters are strewn here and there with no obvious attempt at forming coherent words or sentences.

Dark in colour (black, brown or ink blue), the letters are so stylised that they actually could be thought of as being cilia, birds in flight or people in the sea.

At times, sketched timidly and maybe subconsciously, the letter arrangement creates less abstract images: An arched doorway, a suspended bridge, an aura or a huge aquatic creature similar to a



Two paintings by the artist Khalid Khreis exhibited at the Spanish Cultural Centre.

mushroom. The final effect though is not that of a carefully created one, it is spontaneous.

Perspective is in-existent or at least not created in the traditional way. Superimpos-

ing dabs of colour at times gives depth to the paintings; at times spectacular, carrying the viewer through a stage-like landscape, a time tunnel or a fairy tale forest.

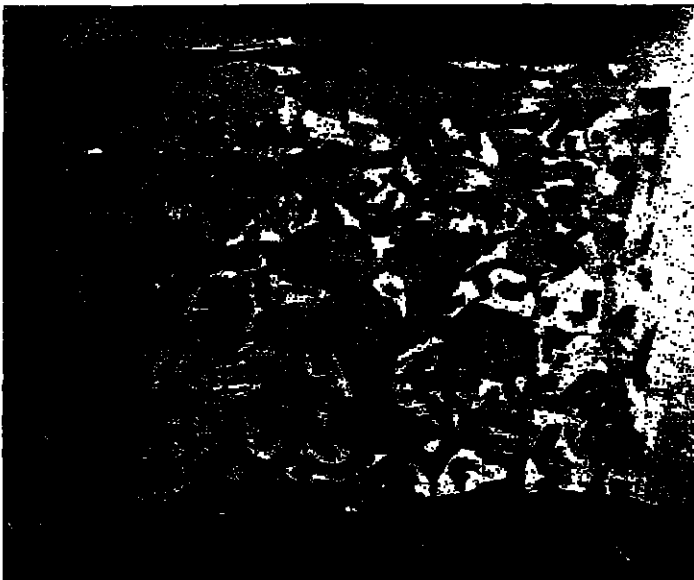
But the abstract canvases

will make any attempt at interpretation fail.

The obvious preoccupation is with letters, at times generously present in clusters; at others barely discernible, their linear variations cross-

sing the infinitely deep spaces specially created for them.

The exhibition, inaugurated Wednesday by the Spanish ambassador, Juan Manuel Cabrera, will be on until Oct. 29.





# JTV CHANNEL 2 WEEKLY PREVIEW

Thursday, Oct. 15

8:30 Uncle Buck

Thea begins to work as a salesgirl and learns the facts of life the hard way.

9:10 Civil Wars

Mixed marriages, divorces and racial segregation are the theme of tonight's episode.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Movie Of The Week

Babies

Starring: Lyndsay Wagner and Marry Walker

The story of three ladies who want to have babies.

Friday, Oct. 16

8:30 Too Close For Comfort

9:10 The Good Guys

10:00 News In English

10:20 The Antagonists

The one-hour dramatic series revolves around the adversarial relationship between Kate Ward, a young, ambitious deputy district attorney and Jonathan "Jack" Scarlett, a handsome, slick, seasoned defence attorney from the Shapiro and Scarlett law firm. A murder case throws Kate into the courtroom arena against Jack, her law school adversary. When the trial concludes, Kate and Jack are fully aware that each of them is a greater competitor and better lawyer than they originally had imagined. Though attracted to each other, it is an impossible relationship. Scarlett deals in shades of gray while Ward works within absolutes... black and white, right and wrong. Kate and Jack intrude on each other's worlds — Kate helps Jack realise which parts are real; he, in turn,

helps her look around the corners to get the truth.

Saturday, Oct. 17,

8:30 America's Funniest Home Videos

9:00 Perspective

9:30 Varieties

10:00 News In English

10:20 Feature Film

Nasty Boys

Starring: Gray Hark

Sunday, Oct. 18

8:30 Coach

Hayden and Kristen move to New York where they stay at the apartment of Kristen's friend. Luther offers Kristen a job but she cannot decide whether to accept or not because she is afraid to leave her boyfriend.

9:10 Documentary-Fragile Earth

The Secret City

A documentary programme about the deadly radiation caused by a Russian nuclear plant in central Russia.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Midnight Caller

The Added Starter

Jack helps uncover a crime and a scheme to discredit a state senator.

Monday, Oct. 19

8:30 The Powers That Be

Charlerella

Awarding a prize to a man for services never rendered to the people is a political game.

9:10 A Fine Romance

It's Just The Gypsy In My Soul

10:00 News In English

10:20 The Gravy Train

The shipments are delivered to their destination in Bulgaria. Hanz discovers that the shipments belong to the Mafia; so he decides to leave Bulgaria after he has been chased by the police.

Tuesday, Oct. 20

8:30 Golden Girls

9:10 TECX

The detectives investigate a case where he discovers a fraud. A man exports nuclear waste to Africa, so they have to chase this man and arrest him.

10:00 News In English

10:20 When The Lion Roars

A documentary programme about MGM after the depression and about the famous films produced during that time. The programme discusses the movie Mutiny On The Bounty which was produced in 1935.

Wednesday, Oct. 21

8:30 Saved By The Bell

Zack faces the problem of Kelly's party and Penny, the niece of Mr. Belding. But with the help of Screech, he is capable of solving the problem.

9:30 Chased

The Bridge Too Fat

Mrs. Peacock is playing host to the Arlington gentry at a grand cocktail party, and taking the opportunity to show off the trophy she and Ms. Scarlett won in a local bridge competition. Colonel Mustard and Professor Plum look on, bored by their boasting. But Plum, the joker of this pack, has a surprise for the dull duo — a pair of bridge fanatics who he introduces as Mr. and Mrs. Hope. The Hopes persuade Peacock and Scarlett to play a rubber for some rather high stakes, and the Reverend Green sees the promised funds for his church roof disappear before his eyes. Who are Mr. and Mrs. Hope and why are they so good at bridge? And will Mrs. Peacock swallow her pride and admit defeat, before she gambles away Ms. Scarlett's heirlooms?

10:00 News In English

10:20 Bangkok Hilton

A female drug trafficker and her brother are executed at Bangkok jail.

## Letter

Dear Sir,  
Last year, I saw an article in your magazine (I think it was in your magazine, but I am not sure) which interested me VERY much, but I have forgotten what it was. I wrote the name of the article and the magazine in my notebook after I had read it, but I have lost the notebook! I have also lost the magazine which the article appeared in. Will you please send me another copy of the magazine, if it was your magazine? Thank you very much.

Yours Faithfully,  
Lillian.

The writer is a student of English literature at the University of Jordan.

## ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

By Mohammad A. Shuqair

### BELIEVE IT OR NOT

- During a freak storm in France, thousands of small toads rained down on the startled population.
- The word "vinegar" comes from the French "Vin aigre", meaning sour wine.
- A dog, often appearing in Hollywood movies, uses its paw-prints to sign its own contracts.
- In the International Inventions Exhibition held in Geneva, people could watch a bicycle run by water.
- The Australian spider has paws that can penetrate an animal's bones.
- More people emigrate from the United Kingdom than from any other country.

### LET'S CHAT IN ARABIC

#### "FAMILIAR PHRASES"

- Someone is knocking at the door. *Fee hada biduk ilbab*
- Go and see who (it is). *Rouk shoof meen.*
- It's Ibrahim. *Hada Ibrahim.*
- Let him come in. *Khalil yodkhul.*
- Welcome, a hundred times welcome. *Ahlan wasahlan; Mit ahlan wasahlan.*
- God bless you. *Allah ybarik feek*
- I have not seen you for a long time. *Min Zaman na shuftak.*
- You left us a grief (solitude). *Auhashina.*
- My God not leave you desolate. *Allah la yushak.*
- I have a great longing for you. *Ans ktr mshakkak.*
- And we still more. *Wahlan bil-akr.*

### TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Sports and games

- What is the hat trick in cricket?
- In playing chess, which player has the first move?
- To what sport does 'slalom' refer?
- In boxing, how long is the round?
- With what game is Wimbledon associated?
- What is the important stroke in tennis?
- In contract bridge, what is a strategic pass?

\*\*\*

### MY NAME, THIS IS WHAT IT MEANS

- ADNAN: The resident; the settler.
- IDRIS: One of the prophets.
- ADEEB: Man of letters; refined; will-mannered.
- ASHRAF: (Comparative adj.) more honourable, honest, respectable.
- AKRAM: (Comparative adj.) — more generous; nobler.

### JOKES AND CRACKS

The first American astronaut lands on a planet: "No

signs of life," he reports. "And the most pleasant surprise is to land in a place where nobody shouts 'Yankess, Go home.'"

\*\*\*

After the shipwreck, two sailors were washed ashore on a deserted island. After being there in complete isolation for a long time they noticed a bottle just washed ashore. One of them produced a piece of paper out of the bottle. "It's a poster," he commented in disappointment. "It says, 'Join the navy and see the world!'"

\*\*\*

Albert Einstein was once asked: "What weapons would be used in World War III?"  
"I don't know what weapons would be used in the beginning of the war," replied the scientist, but soon after, clubs would be enough to carry on fighting!"

\*\*\*

What did the big telephone say to the small telephone?  
— You're too small to be engaged.

### PUZZLES

- The six words required to solve this puzzle all end in RUM. For example, the florist's RUM would be ARUM. Now see if you can solve these:  
(1) The RUM of polite usage.  
(2) The quack doctor's RUM.  
(3) The real doctor's RUM.  
(4) The puzzler's RUM.  
(5) The monotonous RUM.

- Take one letter from each line going UP or DOWN and make the names of eight creatures.

A	R	E	T	C
I	P	M	A	U
R	E	I	B	G
Z	L	C	O	R

\*\*\*

### YOUR DREAMS INTERPRETED

- BIRDS: A sign of good luck. If a flock is seen it means a journey abroad. To see birds shot down means bad news is on the way.
- AEROPLANE: A wealthy marriage is in store for you.
- JEWELS: A very favourable sign, bringing plenty of good luck.
- FLYING: You will be disappointed in your immediate ambitions.
- DANCING: A happy and fortunate event to come.

See Solutions on page D

## Peer pressure

By E. Yaghi

As children grow older, they spend more and more time in the company of their peers — those people of roughly equivalent age and other social circumstances. As the influence of the peer group increases, that of parents diminishes, especially in modern industrialised societies where parents work away from home and where there has been a long-term erosion of the authority of elders. The influence of the peer group climaxes in adolescence when young people are apt to form a distinctive subculture with its own tastes, leisure activities, dress, jargon, symbols, values and heroes. Within the peer group, the young are able for the first time to choose their own companions and to interact with others on a basis of equality. In industrialised societies, children enter the socially defined stage of adolescence at about the age of 12. This is often a stressful phase, because adolescents are usually still financially dependent on their parents and yet they want and attempt to abandon their childish ways. They may be expected to act as grownups but they are denied the opportunity to engage in adult behaviour.

Teenagers continue to have strong bonds to their parents during adolescence, but their peer groups often emphasise values and norms different from those of their parents' dominant culture. Adolescents often place more value on popularity with their peers than on scholastic success and they sometimes adopt an anti-authority stance and reject their parents and their life style. Probably the slang, dress and music of adolescents are better seen as part of an effort to define themselves as distinct from adults, rather than as a real effort to create an entirely new culture.

Marwan is a teenager who attends a private junior high school in Amman. Usually, he is quiet and has achieved a record of good manners and excellence at school. At home, he poses few problems for his parents. However, one day at school, he decided to turn into a different kind of student. For ages he had been trying to fit in with the crowd, or the gang. "What was it that they had and he didn't?" he asked himself. "I dress the same way they do, my dad's got plenty of money, a nice position and a fancy car, so what's left?" He tried being friendly with them, but they paid him no heed. Finally, he discovered their secret — a disregard for authority. He observed that they respected nobody and whenever threatened with eviction or punishment at school, they answered: "So what?"

Finding their secret formula didn't necessarily guarantee success, but Marwan thought he'd give it a try, so he swaggered into the classroom, chewing gum and threw himself down at his desk. Eying the leaders of the gang, he noted that he had already scored a few points by his adoption of an arrogant attitude. When the teacher entered the classroom and greeted her students with a "good morning, class," he sneered with contempt and growled, "What's so good about it?"

The young teacher ignored his remark and continued to talk about the day's lesson. Being a good student wasn't impressive, being a bad one was. Whenever he was called upon, Marwan gave the wrong answer even if he knew the right one. Each time he cracked a joke, the gang roared

with approval. The teacher appeared confused. At last, she slung the chalk down on the floor where it exploded into pieces and said threateningly. "Look, I don't know what's got into you today, but I do know that you're not the same Marwan I know. What's come over you? If you don't quit acting like this, I'm sending you to the principal's office!"

The gang still snickered in approval. Marwan was confused and filled with chagrin. He had never been scolded in class before. The blood rushed to his face and he turned dark red. Just how important was it to please these guys anyway? Did he have to become a stranger to himself in order for them to like him and would he then be satisfied with playing the part they wanted him to? He suffered through a black silence the rest of the morning with wounded pride and when the bell rang for the lunch break, he dashed upstairs to his teacher's office, knocked on her door, burst in and said, "I'm sorry for acting up in class!"

He felt the teacher scrutinising him with disapproval as she retorted, "I don't know what got into you today! Why on earth did you behave so strange?"

He knew he was expected to present himself like a man. How many times had his father emphasised this fact? He was too big to cry, but in spite of his efforts, some tears worked their way onto the edge of his lids and threatened to betray him by spilling down over his still flushed face. At first he stuttered and then blurted out, "I'm sorry, Miss. It's just that it's so hard not to be one of the guys. When I'm quiet and pay attention in class and participate in the discussions, they mock me, snub me and refuse to speak to me. What shall I do? It's so hard to be an outcast!"

He tasted a drop of salt on his cheeks but even so, smelled his teacher's coffee and he remembered he was hungry when he heard his stomach rumbling. His expression was confused and he searched for compassion in his teacher's eyes. "What do you want with those bullies?" she replied. "They're no good and they certainly aren't your type. They are rubbish! You are an excellent student. Why should you jeopardise your career as a scholar and become a bum like them? They will probably never get any place in this world, whereas you have a very promising future. Your education will help build you up as well as your country, but what will these despicable beings have to offer? They will only be the trouble-makers of the future. You must decide for yourself which is more important, doing what is right, or fitting in with the wrong crowd that can certainly do you no good. If you need a friend, then come to me, I'll be your friend. If you need a shoulder to lean on, I'll give you that too. I'm always here if you need me."

Up till now, Marwan has resisted the temptation to further associate with the gang or try to impress them with any more unruly behaviour. He is lucky to have a teacher who is concerned about his conduct and his future. Only time will tell if he can remain one of the best students in his class, or succumb to the whims of his peers.

The young, therefore, cannot expect the automatic acceptance from peers that they can from family members, and so have to learn to present themselves in ways that win approval of the group. By rewarding members for conformity to group norms and criticising or ostracising them for non-conformity, the peer group helps shape the social behaviour and personality of those who join it.

## Yuppie lifestyles thriving among well-to-do in Mexico

By William Cormier  
The Associated Press

MEXICO CITY — Fern bars and price shopping clubs, English lessons and Disney World vacations. Mexicans are going wild over anything Gringo, from MTV and CNN to instant coffee and instant gratification.

So you thought the yuppie was extinct? Just head south of the border, where a flood of American products has inspired a rising tide of prosperous "wannabes" hooked on hamburgers, Haagen-Daz and Hollywood.

Mexican stockbrokers flash about the lim in big American luxury cars. Young people sporting the preppy look cruise fashionable new discos with such haughty names as status.

Loud floral ties are all the rage, and jeans made in the USA. "Frankly, everything I'm wearing is American," said 21-year-old Leticia Zamorano, in hip-hugging jeans. "All my friends buy American. The fashions are so much newer than anything made here."

American products began flooding the country after 1986, when Mexico joined the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and lowered many tariffs on imported goods. But the large-scale cultural assault has picked up speed in the '90s.

Cable News Network (CNN) and MTV now reach into tens of thousands of homes, Stephen King stalks the top of the Mexican best-seller list, and icy cases of American frozen foods have begun popping up in supermarkets.

And that may be just the start.

Mexico, the United States and Canada have completed negotiations on a North American free trade agreement, which would establish the world's largest trade zone if ratified.

"A sea change is taking place ahead of the North American free trade pact," said writer Homero Aridjis. "The Mexican economy is becoming Americanised, for better and for worse. The culture to a great extent, too."

"Many Mexicans are becoming aliens in their own country," Mr. Aridjis lamented. "When I ask the question, 'what is going to happen to the tortilla culture?' Nobody has an answer."

Likely as not, two cultures will exist side by side. For the have-nots — most of Mexico's 81 million people — cradle-to-grave poverty probably will never be eradicated. But then there is the smaller, but quite visible, consumer class.

"Life has changed a lot in Mexico. It's moving so much faster," said one member of that group, Annie Smith, 23. "Herself the product of an English father and a Latino mother, she said she liked the changes, except some of the excesses."

"Everyone is trying harder than ever to imitate the American lifestyle," said Ms. Smith, stopped on a swank strip of boutiques in the capital's Polanco district, dubbed Rodeo Drive. "People are even dying their hair blond and putting in blue contact lenses."

The signs of conspicuous consumption are everywhere: From satellite dishes sprouting like bug mushrooms atop Mexico City condos to American-built convertibles burning rubber on northern roads where donkeys once trod — and sometimes still do.

Cellular phones are selling faster here than anywhere in the world. And in a country where the phone lines barely function, Mexicans who are burned out on traditional fare simply pick up the "cellular" and call "Mr. Sushi." He delivers.

The land of the midday siesta is changing.

As one Mexico City billboard declared: "It's time for Domino's pizza." Or for that matter — Taco Bell, McDonald's, Subway, Arby's, Kentucky Fried Chicken or TCBY Yogurt — it's all here, with Burger King on the way.

"Mexicans just love pizza," said one hurried Domino's manager, 20-year-old Francisco Gas, interviewed as he barked orders to the 10 delivery boys on scooters during the big midday rush.

"We opened this Domino's outlet just two years ago and it's taken off. Right now, they're going crazy over our Hawaiian pineapple special."

A price shopping warehouse and huge supermarkets with imported food sections have whetted the appetite of increasingly finicky consumers hungry for everything from wheateas to smoked salmon and bagels.

The Brooklyn Bagel Co. De Mexico helps fill the need, six to a bag at better stores everywhere.

You want that with a smear? No problem. Philadelphia cream cheese is everywhere, made in Mexico.

There's even a slim centre to help folks squeeze into American jeans after over-eating.

The erosion of Mexico's cultural identity worries many people. Bored teenage mall rats are one side effect of the smart, new shopping centres. Headaches and stress are also soaring.

Even endearing cultural traditions are under attack.

As Mexican flags went up for Independence Day on Sept. 15, the biggest worry of the new Party Store Confetti was getting out the plastic pumpkins for Halloween. It used to be celebrated as the Day of the Dead, or All Souls' Day, a major family and religious holiday. It still is by many, but that's changing.

Bart Simpson pinatas re-

place candy-stuffed bulls at kiddie birthday parties, competing head-to-head with McDonald's "Hamburger" pinatas.

"We opened just five months ago and the Mutant Ninja Turtle pinatas are also selling real well," said a Confetti sales clerk, Barbara Salas.

Even Mexico City's tourist district, the Zona Rosa, looks more like New York's Fifth Avenue than anything Mexican. It's dominated by such stores as Aca Joe, Gap and Polo by Ralph Lauren.

It also has Yuppies' Sports Cafe — with one of Latin America's largest collections of American sporting memorabilia. The highlights: A Joe Montana Super Bowl ring and Sugar Ray Leonard's boxing gloves.

Just a line drive from Yuppies' and its collection of Will Clark and Jose Canseco baseball bats, the Twin Theatre showed Patriot Games starring Harrison Ford. Batman-mania peaked in August.

The fad for things American is not just blowing in Mexico City.

One posh northern suburb of Monterrey, San Pedro Garza Garcia, is full of signs in English for everything from interior decorating to ice cream.

Young swains on Mexican campuses call up a "sweetie" or "baby" for a date, and two parting friends are likely to end with "adios bye-bye."

Department stores in San Antonio and Laredo, Texas, advertise regularly in Monterrey on billboards and in newspapers. On weekends their parking lots fill with cars with Mexican license plates.

Just about everyone's cousin has studied in the United States and well-heeled "northerners" travel to Disney World in Florida or the beaches of South Padre Island, Texas, for spring breaks.



## Daniel Day-Lewis — from actor's actor to sex symbol

By Dan Cox  
Reuter

NEW YORK — In one film role Daniel Day-Lewis has gone from being an actor's actor to Hollywood's latest sex symbol.

He says it's all in a day's work — the kind of job that lets him play paralysed Irish painter Christy Brown in one role and James Fenimore Cooper's famed hero Hawkeye in another.

As for having women swoon over him as they do in *Last Of The Mohicans*, Day-Lewis says his latest love is not a woman but a rifle he carried nearly every day of the 73-day filming schedule. "I discovered a disturbing affection for the weapons I was using, particularly the flintlock rifles," he said.

"They're very, very beautiful things in a horrifying way and they become very personal things," he said. "I found I couldn't put it down."

Not the kind of words some reviewers like the New York Post newspaper's Jami

Bernard want to hear. "For this guy, which woman would not jump off a cliff," Ms. Bernard wrote.

New York Times reviewer Janet Maslin called Day-Lewis a "hot-blooded leading man."

"Does Mr. Day-Lewis have the wherewithal to give this figure a matinee-idol magnetism?" Ms. Maslin wrote. "What a silly question."

Day-Lewis is the son of the late British poet laureate Cecil Day-Lewis, who was born in Ireland, and the actor himself carries an Irish passport.

In his most visible and certainly his most athletic role yet, the 33-year-old actor plays Hawkeye, the white American who is raised by the last Indians of the Mohican tribe during the French and Indian wars.

Day-Lewis runs, shoots and jumps over cliffs in as many bare-chested shots with the music swelling as Michael Mann, director of the hit TV series *Miami Vice*, can fit into his two-hour opus.

The film has become a big hit in the United States, grossing more than \$11 million in its first weekend with critics going gaga over Day-Lewis.

But the graceful Day-Lewis, who won over American audiences in *A Room With A View* and *My Left Foot*, which garnered him a best-actor Oscar for his portrayal of Dubliner Christy Brown, takes the sexual hysteria in stride.

In an interview before the film opened on Sept. 25, he said he's become used to being labelled a sex star. But it's not a tag he particularly covets. "It's not anything I look for," he said. "I just try to do the work."

Mann, whose stylistic vision in *Miami Vice* turned America into a sexual playground of day-glo suits and three-day beard stubble, said he cast Day-Lewis partly for his sex appeal, but mostly because he was an excellent actor who could handle the subtleties and the strenuousness of Hawkeye.

"He's an amazing athlete," Mann said. "By the time we

were done, Daniel could do everything. He took to weapons and shooting rapidly. By the end he was shooting bullseyes out."

Madeleine Stowe, who plays Hawkeye's love Cora, said only the most professional demeanor got her through the love scenes with Day-Lewis. "You've got to have great affection for the character you're playing," she said. "It's not about falling in love with the actor, it's really about the attachment to the character."

Rather than dwell on his sex appeal, Day-Lewis prefers discussing the native American perspective in his new film. He said he had only read about the problems Indians faced before they started the film, but came to understand them during the shooting in forests of North Carolina.

On the set, he became good friends with native American activist Russell Means, whom Mann wisely cast as Indian leader Chingachgook, and native American actor Wes Studi, who

played Magua. "Even if I'd been determined to remain ignorant of it, you couldn't have just by the association with those people," Day-Lewis said.

He said he immersed himself in Hawkeye by "reading, talking and thinking," but that he was saddened after first reading Cooper's *Tales of Early American Life*.

"There is a tremendous amount of sadness about an irreclaimable part of civilisation, which can never be there again," he said.

Though a school athletics star of near Olympics quality, Day-Lewis said even the most arduous training regimen for the film didn't prepare him for the rigours of the role. "I was very fit when I started this film and much less fit when I finished it," he said. "It wasn't a piece of cake."

As for women, the newest sex symbol says he doesn't have time right now, despite an off-and-on relationship with Irish punk rocker Sinéad



Daniel Day-Lewis as Hawkeye in a scene from his latest film *The Last Of The Mohicans*

O'Connor.

After eight months working 18-hour days on Mohi-

cans, Day-Lewis went straight into production for his next film, *The Age Of*

Innocence, based on Edith Wharton's novel and directed by Martin Scorsese.

## Mr. Baseball may strike out with Japanese

By Dan Cox  
Reuter

NEW YORK — Mr. Baseball, a new film about an ageing U.S. ballplayer in Japan, may hit some home runs with Americans but strike out with Japanese lovers of the game.

The film, which opened in U.S. theatres last week, stars Tom Selleck as Jack Elliot, a New York Yankee slugger who is reluctantly traded to the Japanese leagues. In a culture clash, Elliot is forced — begrudgingly — to adapt to the ceremonial nature of playing Japanese ball.

Since shooting began last fall, rumors and complaints have swirled around the MCA-Universal film, claim-

ing it was insulting to the Japanese and portrayed them as buffoons.

In the film, the Japanese players exercise in an almost mystical fashion and refuse to wear shoes in the clubhouse.

Said one Japanese woman who attended a New York screening, "it doesn't make things look very good over there."

But producers of the film say it's just a simple comedy that pokes fun at Japanese and American undying devotion to baseball.

"It not only takes shots at the Japanese, it takes them at the Americans, too," said Doug Claybourne, producer of the film. "We didn't write it to accommodate every-

body. It's a comedy about cultural differences."

Selleck in a television interview said he thought his character was more of a buffoon than the Japanese players, but Americans identify with Elliot's "fish-out-of-water" perspective.

"Culturally we just don't get it and they don't get us," he said.

But the star said he made the movie mostly so he could play baseball. A lifelong fan, Selleck actually went through some of the Major League spring training in preparation.

Mr. Baseball was filmed at the height of the baseball season — in Japan, which Claybourne said required en-

ormous cooperation from the Japanese. But he said the Japanese slowed things down because they wanted to monitor things so closely.

"They're very rule-oriented. We had meetings on meetings on meetings about tiny things, a lot of stuff we think is just silly," he said.

Matsushita Co., which owns Universal, hopes to make back some of the \$35 million budget for Mr. Baseball by marketing it in Japan as well as the United States.

But at screenings in Tokyo several months ago, audiences were reportedly put off by sex scenes between Selleck and Aya Takamashi, who plays the daughter of his

baseball coach.

"Xenophobia is a good way to put it kindly," Selleck said. "Some are offended that she went to bed with me so soon and some are offended that she went to bed with me at all."

Claybourne said this may have been a legitimate complaint from the Japanese, but not one he felt was worth changing.

"It's hard to have a relationship with Japanese women, unless they're somewhat Westernised. That was a complaint they had, but I think she's a valid character in Japan."

Others have complained that the film's "trailers" — the previews shown in movie

theatres, depict the Japanese unflatteringly.

"I haven't seen the trailers, but I've seen the commercial on television," said Kevin Wade, one of the film's writers. "It's sort of goofy, but it didn't seem offensive."

Claybourne also denied a New York Times report last November that the producers had bowed to pressure from Matsushita to soften the cultural clashes and make the Japanese look better.

The article claimed that the script was changed to add greater awareness on Selleck's part and that several jokes about World War II were removed.



Tom Selleck

## Columbus movie lands on wrong shores

By Vincent Canby

NEW YORK — Much in the way that the mind and motives of Christopher Columbus continue to elude historians, the drama of his life continues to baffle those who would make coherent movies about him.

First there was Ilya and Alexander Salkind's *Christopher Columbus: The Discovery*, the inadvertently funny swash-buckler seen here in August. Now comes the far more ambitious "1492: Conquest of Paradise," directed by Ridley Scott, written by Roselyne Bosch, and starring Gérard Depardieu as a very intense, conflicted Columbus, caught midway between the known world of historical facts and the filmmakers' imaginations.

The film, which actually begins some years before 1492 and ends some years later, starts off with a lot of solemn and quite conventionally effective scene-setting as Columbus's son and biographer, Fernando, recalls his father, the dream-

er of impossible dreams.

"I want to travel all over the seas," the father tells the young Fernando as they stand in handsome profile gazing towards the western horizon. "I want to get behind the weather."

Approximately 45 minutes and several throne-room scenes later, Columbus sets sail from Spain on the voyage that would end in what some call the great discovery of the New World and others ridicule as the cruel invasion of a world that had always been there.

The film that follows is a decent, if primitive sort of recap of Columbus's four voyages (condensed into two), his initial triumphs, his disgrace and his final neglect as others receive credit for his accomplishments.

"1492" is not a terrible film. Yet because it is without any guiding point of view, it is a lot less interesting than the elaborate physical production that has been given it. Only a very great writer could do justice to all the themes the Columbus story suggests. Bosch may be a

very good researcher, but she's not a very great writer. She can't even squeeze in many relevant facts, much less define the relevance of those she does include.

With the great hulking figure of Depardieu at its centre, the movie at least has the presence of an actor who can suggest passion that the screenplay never pursues with any consistency. At the beginning of "1492," this Columbus is both a dreamer of unknown worlds and the hustler he had to be to secure backing for his first voyage. Later, as his colony in Hispaniola is besieged by angry Indians and sabotaged by jealous countrymen, he is suddenly revealed to be a Utopian.

"You treat Indians as the equals of Europeans," says one disgusted colleague. "What do you want?"

Answers Columbus, "I want a new world." The movie would seem to agree that the Spaniards treated the Indians badly right from the start, but Columbus's complicity is ignored. He's as shocked as the Indians.

As the movie goes relentlessly on, and as Scott more and more frequently fills the air with rain, mist, fog, smoke or dandelion fluff, dramatic invention runs out. With his dreams of wealth and fame collapsing, all Columbus can say is, "Nobody ever said this would be easy."

That line appears to be an original inspiration, which can't be said of Columbus's pep talk to his men the night they threaten mutiny on the first voyage: "In time they will talk about the courage of the men who crossed this ocean, and then you can say, 'I was on the Niña,' 'I was on the Pinta,' 'I was on the Santa Maria.'" Did Bosch find something in the archives in Seville to suggest that Shakespeare cribbed Henry V's St. Crispin's Day speech from Columbus?

The members of the supporting cast have even less to work with than Depardieu. Sigourney Weaver is surprisingly effective as Queen Isabella. She plays straight and true and looks regal, even when having to say, at the end, "The New World is

a disaster."

Armand Assante, Fernando Rey, Frank Langella and John Heffernan are among the familiar faces that from time to time peer out around the historical personages.

The most riveting supporting actors both play bad guys. Michael Wincott, wearing his hair long in 1960s hippie style, appears as the young Spaniard who precipitates the revolt in Hispaniola. Mark Margolis is similarly impressive as the Spanish noble who shows up in Hispaniola to give Columbus his walking (sailing) papers back to Spain.

The scenery is impressive, including some of Spain's grandest old palaces and cathedrals. The film's other principal location was Costa Rica, which passes not only for all of the various islands Columbus visited, but also for Palos, the small Spanish port from which Columbus sailed on his first voyage. It's a very pretty little port, if somewhat tropical for Spain.

The special effects are also good, especially a hurricane that sweeps down on Col-



Gérard Depardieu as Christopher Columbus in the film *1492: Conquest Of Paradise*

umbus at one point as if it were the hand of God,

though just what God might be thinking remains as fuzzy

as the ideas of the filmmakers — New York Times.

## Swedish film-maker turns from sex to dynamite for Nobel movie

By Randall Mikkelsen  
Reuter

STOCKHOLM — The Swedish film-maker who exploded conventions of sex, art and politics in the 1960's with *I Am Curious (Yellow)* has turned his attention to Alfred Nobel, inventor of dynamite and founder of the Nobel Prize.

Director and writer Vilgot Sjöman is working on a screenplay about the life of the Swedish businessman, nowadays known to the world as little more than a face on the prestigious prize medals that bear his name.

"That's the meaning of the

whole film, to smash the sculpture or the coin and show a human being," Sjöman said. "Maybe I can surprise the audiences with a living character."

Nobel ran a vast multinational business and left a huge fortune when he died unmarried in 1896. He stipulated in his will that most of the money be used to reward contributions in science, literature and peace.

The prizes, now in their 91st year, are announced each October.

In real life, Sjöman said, Nobel's self-loathing and failed romances formed a tragic counterpoint to his greatness in science and industry.

"This is really not a success story in American terms. It's more of the European kind of thing where you are always aware of the tragedy and shortcomings in human life," Sjöman said.

The screenplay focuses on the two women in Nobel's love life, both came from Vienna but otherwise were worlds apart.

The first woman, Bertha Von Suttner, Nobel hired as a secretary and brought to his headquarters in Paris. Within days he discovered in her a beautiful companion with whom he could enjoy deep, intellectual discussions and feel at ease.

Nobel expressed romantic

interest in Von Suttner, but a week after he hired her, Nobel left on a sudden business trip and Von Suttner fled back to Vienna to elope with a young baron to whom she had been secretly engaged.

"They could have been the perfect couple — brilliant minds, gifted in language and literature, but they ran away from each other," Sjöman said.

The two stayed in contact, however, and Von Suttner's work as a peace activist is thought to have been a major influence behind Nobel's creation of the peace prize.

Nobel's relationship with Sophie Hess, a flower-shop

clerk he met shortly after Von Suttner left, lasted for nearly two decades. But his love for her died early, and he spent most of the rest of their relationship scolding her for being intellectually dull and careless with his money.

"He (Nobel) is a terrible sort of Professor Higgins. A normal man would have realised that this wasn't working. One of the riddles is why he stays with her for 20 years," Sjöman said.

In writing to Hess, Nobel referred to himself in viciously loathsome terms, but he never lost sight of his brilliance, Sjöman said. "It's a pendulum that swings be-

tween self-disgust and grandiosity," he said.

Sjöman said his main goal was to show a common human element in Nobel's struggle for emotional ties.

"Basically people, in the inner sense, are very much alone with their ghosts, and if they meet these ghosts in somebody else's work, the loneliness will be less," he said.

Sjöman said his screenplay, commissioned by Sweden's Sandrew Film Company, should be finished this year and he hoped to direct the film.

Sjöman said sex will not be a central theme, unlike his

1967 *I Am Curious (Yellow)* with its controversial sex scenes set amid Sweden's radical-left movement.

He said that movie was a deliberate attempt to break down sexual barriers in film making, to portray sex realistically and in the broader context of emotional life.

But Sjöman said he had been disappointed with the depiction of sex in movies since then. "Very few of the great artists used the freedom that opened up," he said.

"Instead... you got the porno films for old men and young boys in small dirty cinemas or they returned to what I call 'pornography'."

It's a refined kind of pornography.

Sjöman's original efforts to shatter sexual barriers are finding a new audience following the collapse of Communism in East Europe.

He headed a Swedish film series in Moscow last year, and is about to show 10 of his movies to audiences in Hungary who were denied access to them under the Communists.

"Some of the cinéastes (movie buffs) have heard about the films and this mixture of sex and politics; they are curious to see what I have been doing. If you're a sex and politics buff, it's not a bad thing to see."



## The microscope which obeys the eye

By Jean Chabrier

**Micro-surgery, a technique which appeared in the late 60s, has developed prodigiously and obtained spectacular results. Reimplantations, revascularisation, nerve anastomosis, eye and ear operations, etc. have become almost commonplace surgical acts to such an extent that one no longer even marvels at them. A host of specific instruments have been created for micro-surgery with the microscope as the key one.**

PARIS — Is it necessary to stress the extreme accuracy and minuteness of a surgeon's slightest gesture? Unlike other surgical acts, in

which two people or more always operate, the assistants can only help indirectly owing to the tiny area being operated on. For example,

the thread used for stitches is so thin that it is quite invisible to the naked eye. The surgeon also has to almost continually modify the position and depth of field of the microscope. But the surgeon only has two hands and both of them are very busy.

The idea was thought up of having a kind of pedal to operate the microscope. Indeed, one does not become a micro-surgeon in just a few hours and there is little risk of confusion. But, as these operations easily last several hours, having to work using one's hands and one's feet add to the surgeon's tiredness and discomfort.

Since 1980, J. Charlier (INSERM research unit n. 279 in Lille) has been working on this problem and trying to build a microscope system

which would depend entirely on the user's eyes. In this, he succeeded and invented a system which has already been in use in the ophthalmology clinic in Nantes since 1990 and in Dusseldorf in 1991, resulting in a great saving in time, increased safety and complete success (for cataracts, detachment of the retina, etc.).

### Following the eyes

The principle of this new system, which costs about 60,000 francs and can be fitted onto a standard surgical microscope, is obviously fairly complex. It can be roughly explained as follows:

It contains a source of light, close to infra-red and thus invisible to the eye of the operator. The beam shines

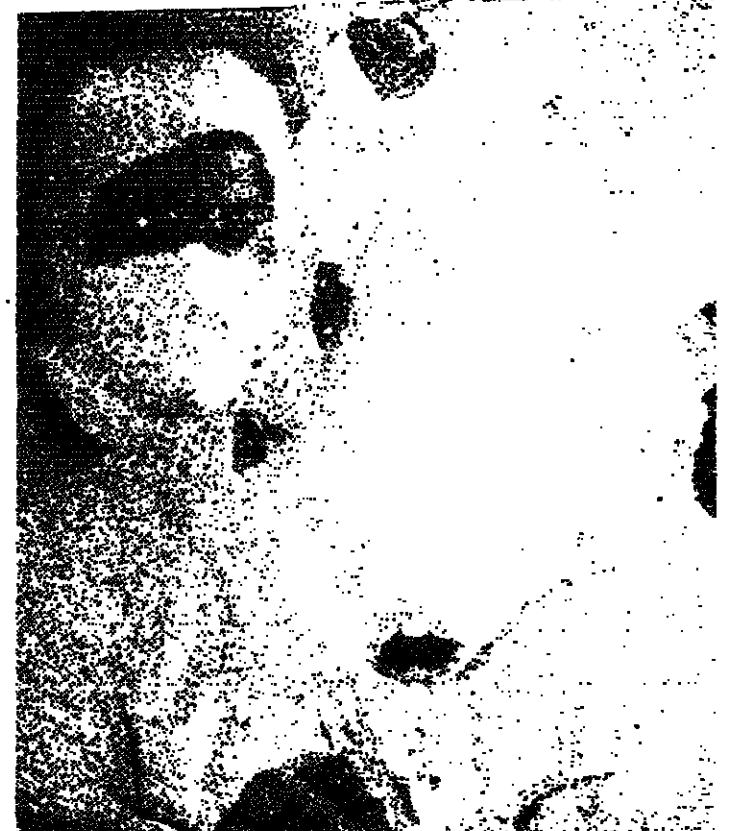
through a semi-transparent plate which only allows the light to pass through in one direction towards a mirror placed in the eyepiece of the microscope from where it is reflected into the surgeon's eyeballs. Part of the beam then goes through the eyeball to the retina while another part is directly reflected by the cornea.

The whole principle is based on the measurement of the angle made by the two beams when they are reflected. This angle varies depending on the eye movements and is continuously analysed by a computer programme to which the microscope is linked. As the measurements are taken from the surgeon's actual eye, and movements of the head do not interfere.

Other eye-measurement techniques had already been put forward, based on several methods, from the mechanical system (with suckers placed on the eye) to systems measuring variations in the electric potential of the eye.

But none of these solved the problem consisting in making a distinction between the rotation of the eye (revealing an exploratory look) and the movement of the eye (correcting a movement of the head). Using these methods, either the head had to be immobilised, or independent sensors had to be attached to it.

This kind of obstacle has now been removed for good with this "follower of the eye" which misses nothing — L'Actualité En France.



The mobile microscope — a key instrument in micro-surgery

## Medical school curriculum established on fetal alcohol syndrome

By Nancy Plevin  
The Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, New Mexico — Colleen Matarrelli is not asking for much from the first medical school curriculum in the United States in fetal alcohol syndrome: She's hoping for doctors who listen.

A nurse whose 17-year-old adopted son recently was diagnosed with the disorder, Mrs. Matarrelli spent years hounding doctors for answers. "But many parents are too overwhelmed to keep up the good fight," she says.

Fetal alcohol syndrome, produced by drinking during pregnancy, is the nation's leading cause of mental retardation. The disorder was first identified in 1973.

"When I started working

on this issue two years ago I was stupefied to learn that medical schools were turning out doctors who were not being given even the most basic information on the dangers of alcohol during pregnancy," says Patti Munter, founder of the National Organisation in Fetal Alcohol Syndrome in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Munter, along with several University of New Mexico (UNM) doctors and a Dartmouth medical student, has developed a course at UNM to teach doctors how to diagnose the incurable and irreversible disorder, how to care for and counsel patients and their families, and most importantly, they say, how to prevent fetal alcohol syndrome, or FAS.

"It's totally preventable

and I feel strongly that physicians have a duty to prevent as well as cure diseases," says Dr. Jon Aase, a specialist in birth defects who has studied the syndrome for nearly 20 years.

But Dr. Aase says the curriculum isn't the standard fare of today's medical schools. "There are no elegant laboratory studies or special imaging or X-ray techniques," he says. "The big item is simply being aware that it exists and being willing to question mothers about their drinking."

Children with FAS have physical and mental damage, including diminished cranial capacity, impaired growth rates, facial abnormalities, mental retardation, short attention spans, behavioural

problems and difficulty understanding long-term consequences and the relationship between cause and effect.

They are jittery infants with poor eating habits, toddlers who can't concentrate, children who have a hard time in school and adolescents whose lack of judgment can lead to dangerous behaviour, Dr. Aase says.

"They want so much to fit in with a social group they'll ride their bikes down the freeway on a dare or jump off a bridge on a dare," Dr. Aase says. "They'll wind up being the scapegoats for gang activities. They commit crimes with no sense of remorse or responsibility."

Dr. Aase says a recent study found that 60 per cent to 70 per cent of adolescents

with FAS surveyed were in group homes or jail or living on the street.

Mrs. Matarrelli, 45, of Peoria, Illinois, says her son lives in a treatment centre eight hours from home.

"When he has to leave there in 1994, we don't have a clue where he goes next. There is no facility (specifically) for FAS children in the whole United States."

That's evidence, she and others say, that the disorder still must become fully recognised by the medical profession.

At the same time, Sherry Montero of Albuquerque says the FAS label often has caused doctors to dismiss her 13-year-old adopted daughter's physical problems.

"I just found that so outrageous," Ms. Montero says.

"The child needed surgery and it was like, 'what's the point? It's really not going to make any difference.'"

Fetal alcohol syndrome, or some degree of the condition, affects one in 500 children in the United States and, in some groups, one in 125, experts say.

Each year, 55,000 children are born harmed by the disorder, says Fred Coler, a fourth-year Dartmouth medical student on a fellowship at UNM.

"You'll spend hours and hours learning about traditional medical things — dealing with the effect of a problem. But this is one thing we know the cause of," he says. "This is something we're not guessing at. You can really change things by getting on

this topic."

But doctors uneducated about FAS and reluctant to invade patients' privacy are a stumbling block, Dr. Aase and others say.

"A lot of doctors don't feel comfortable or confident in counseling women about drinking behaviour. In this day and age the tenet is we'll cure what you've got but we're not going to make any moral judgements or tell you what to do," Dr. Aase says.

FAS strikes every ethnic and socioeconomic group in the nation, although it has sometimes been identified as an Indian disease, contributing to a lack of interest, Dr. Aase and others say.

"When something is labeled as just an Indian issue, like many other minority issues, the level of politi-

cisation is definitely decreased and that voice is just not heard as loudly," Dr. Munter says.

Federal statistics show 55 per cent of women of child-bearing age have never heard the words "fetal alcohol syndrome" and more than 65 per cent of pregnant women drink alcohol, she says.

"If Ob-Gyns (obstetricians-gynecologists) see a pregnant patient with cocaine rings under her nose or needle marks on her arms I don't think there would be any hesitation at all to address the issue," Dr. Munter says, "but if an Ob-Gyn discovers that his or her patient is having a couple of glasses of wine at night, it becomes a whole different discussion."

## WEEKEND CROSSWORD

By Bette Gordon

ACROSS

1. Grand festival
2. Earthworm pers.
3. Of the soft palate
4. Lushie sediment
5. Sagittar land
6. Lack of confidence
7. Japanese politician
8. Wooden-soled shoes
9. Brood
10. American
11. Most attractive
12. Not under the collar
13. For statesman
14. Ciphers
15. Small ones' suit
16. "Is born"
17. Confiscatory tree

DOWN

1. Penates
2. Name in tennis
3. Mass of ice
4. Try out
5. Unlucky piece
6. Death at the bank
7. Adulter
8. Alphabet run
9. Member of the family
10. Thrill
11. Eastern potatoes
12. Pandect terms
13. Quizzes
14. Most fashionable
15. Supply phenomena
16. Dismantle
17. Area
18. — Benedict
19. — Berlin
20. "Over"

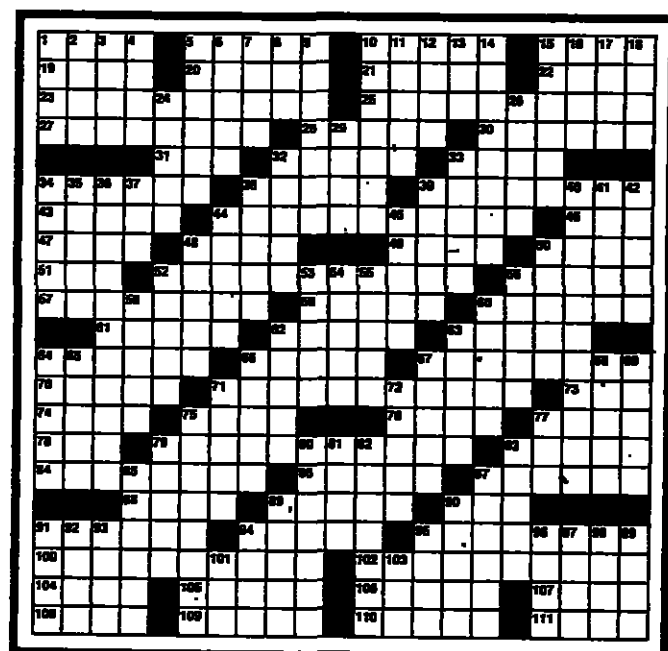
Diagramless 19 x 19, by James Derrick

ACROSS

1. East of lake
2. Lash
3. Danger
4. Whine Cuzco is
5. — de France
6. — go bright
7. Actor
8. Moving air
9. Made fun of
10. Fire or liberal
11. Native of, suff.
12. Fairness
13. Buckles
14. Wipe the state
15. Police strike
16. Landed property
17. Kind of wool
18. Shadowy
19. French noggins
20. Groups of
21. John — Passon
22. Outside: pref.
23. Skillet creature
24. Coarse file
25. Jump blow
26. Cabbage salads
27. Scottish
28. Cooks a certain way
29. Christmas
30. Figure
31. Nuts
32. Building extensions
33. Mustard number
34. Distant
35. Highlander
36. Juvenile heroine of yore
37. Bird of prey
38. Had breakfast
39. Coots
40. White-tailed eagle
41. Permissible
42. Central part of a
43. Biting fly
44. Arabic movement
45. MI rank
46. Before
47. Compuls. pt.
48. Make dirty
49. A bone
50. A law
51. Excavation
52. Puma — Esie
53. Notoriety
54. Inter
55. MI rank
56. Before

DOWN

1. Spigot
2. Harriet
3. Kind of violet
4. Lancer
5. Gardener
6. Church bench
7. Automobile's waterfront
8. Hair dye
9. Complaisance
10. Tail bird
11. — Angeles
12. Official proceedings
13. Outside: pref.
14. Legal paper
15. Skillet creature
16. Coarse file
17. Jump blow
18. Cabbage salads
19. Scottish
20. Cooks a certain way
21. Christmas
22. Figure
23. Nuts
24. Building extensions
25. Mustard number
26. Distant
27. Highlander
28. Juvenile heroine of yore
29. Bird of prey
30. Had breakfast
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37. MI rank
38. Before
39. Compuls. pt.
40. Make dirty
41. A bone
42. A law
43. Excavation
44. Puma — Esie
45. Notoriety
46. Inter
47. MI rank
48. Before



Last Week's Cryptograms

1. Those whose offering may be on the wrong path should firmly resolve that youth must be swerved.
2. Swank artistic porter worked long and hard to keep his piggy chin and arse.
3. Gray seafarer's tallest tale was of the whale that got away.
4. The most blatant, exaggerated things often contain an exact bit of fundamental truth.

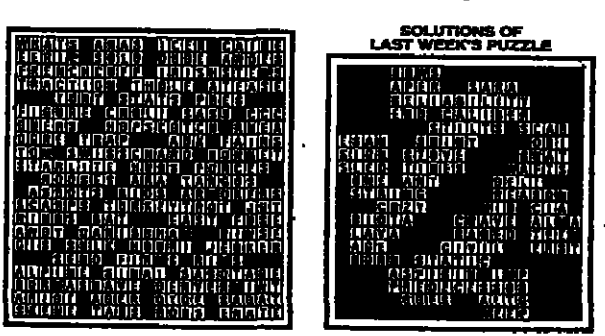
CRYPTOGRAMS

1. BDMQCOROW TOJEDHW WJOL YQHSO  
LEJCL HBCOD QO LOOL DORT SQJLC MR  
QML YHSO.
2. JK LMN KOPFR SPE TPWEV WMLPX, JXR  
LPWR, PX VZWX, QNQR SPE TPWEV  
OQWEX, VQ AJEV TWMEV AQTV ZK.

—By Rita Salvato

3. TPE STAGFED WURLED SPUOCY WAFFLE  
CURLY OFY WUFFLE WLFLE UGH PLY  
WQFLE.
4. CAZC UNOKAM ZUKATO CHURTZC  
MTEYHMCRO, EZCCO EXTRYTS  
REECRONZOSHE TKCRO CAAOR EZZAYO.

—By Eugene T. Malinka



## Study finds sources of rogue protein in Alzheimer's disease

By Paul Rorer  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Formation of rock-hard protein in the brains of Alzheimer's disease victims may result from the loss of a key chemical that promotes signals between brain cells, researchers say. Dr. Richard J. Wurtman, head of a lab at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), where the study was done, said the finding directly links for the first time two characteristics of Alzheimer's and suggests a new way of treating or preventing the disease with drugs.

Researchers had established that patients with Alzheimer's disease have an abnormal buildup of a protein called Amyloid, a substance that Dr. Wurtman calls "insoluble drick." Studies also have found that Alzheimer's patients have a shortage of a brain chemical called Acetylcholine.

"Our finding is that these two are related," Dr. Wurtman said in an interview. In a study with researchers from Massachusetts General Hospital, Dr. Wurtman said his group showed that the

lack of Acetylcholine causes nerve cells in the brain to metabolize protein in a way that leads to an accumulation of Amyloid.

This is a novel and bold new stroke in Alzheimer's research and should stimulate many new efforts to understand the formation of this toxic substance (Amyloid) in the brain of Alzheimer's patients," said Dr. Thomas N. Chase, an Alzheimer's disease researcher at the National Institutes of Health.

"What Wurtman and his group have done is find one controlling factor in the formation of Amyloid," he said. "It's a surprising one."

Chase said that if the work can be confirmed in other labs "it opens new doors" in Alzheimer's drug research. The MIT-Massachusetts General study is published in the journal Science.

Dr. Wurtman said the basic finding is that a chemical process also plays a role in the metabolism of protein in the brain.

Acetylcholine is a neurotransmitter, a type of brain chemical that carries messages or signals between

brain cells. It typically links up with receptor molecules on the surface membrane of cells. These, in turn, trigger a cascade of processes within the cell to metabolize a substance called Amyloid Precursor Protein, or APP.

Dr. Wurtman said his group found that APP can be metabolized "in a good way or in a bad way."

In the good way, it is broken down into substances that are harmlessly excreted. If APP is metabolized in the bad way, said Dr. Wurtman, it creates a substance that leads to the formation of Amyloid.

Using human cells modified to contain APP and having surface receptors specific for Acetylcholine, the researchers tested how protein processing was affected by the brain chemical. They found the cells stimulated with Acetylcholine processed five times more APP in the "good way" than did cells not

stimulated with the neurotransmitter.

"It appears Alzheimer's is a regulatory disease," said Dr. Wurtman. He said that when regulation of APP metabolism is destroyed, Amyloid is formed.

Studies are underway to give final proof that the absence of Acetylcholine is responsible for cells processing APP in a way that creates Amyloid, he said.

If these findings are verified by other labs, Dr. Wurtman said it could lead to developing drugs that stimulate nerve cells to process APP "in the good way" and, thus, not form Amyloid.

Co-authors with Dr. Wurtman in the study were Roger M. Nitsch and John H. Growdon of Massachusetts General and Barbara E. Slack of MIT.

Science, which published the study, is the journal of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

## SOLUTIONS

### TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

#### Sports and games

1. Bowling out three players with successive pitches.
2. The player who has the white pieces.
3. Skiing.
4. Three minutes.
5. Lawn tennis.
6. The service.
7. A pass of an opponent's bid made with the purpose of letting the opponents reach a contract which can be penalised profitably.

#### PUZZLES

- (A) 1. DECORUM  
2. NOSTRUM  
3. SERUM  
4. CONUNDRUM  
5. HUMDRUM
- (B) 1. TIGER  
2. LEMUR  
3. COBRA  
4. CAMEL

ZEBRA  
TAPIR  
EAGLE  
EGRET

## Margarine is said to be bad for you

WASHINGTON (AP) — The oils found in margarine, vegetable shortening and processed foods may cause heart disease, according to the preliminary findings of a U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) study.

In question are the partially hydrogenated vegetable oils made from soybean and corn oils. Manufacturers have been switching to such vegetable oils from palm and coconut oils and lard because of concerns about the amount

of saturated fat in the American diet.

The suspect ingredients in margarine and the other oils are produced when food manufacturers convert vegetable oils to margarine or shortenings that are solid or semisolid at room temperature. The process creates trans fatty acids.

According to the preliminary results, USDA said, some trans fatty acids may raise blood cholesterol levels like certain saturated fatty acids.



## From dhows to containers, Dubai dominates Gulf trade

By Dominic Evans  
Reuters

DUBAI — As an oil producer, Dubai is dwarfed by wealthy neighbour Abu Dhabi.

But petro-dollars or not, Dubai has built on tradition to stand as a regional giant in terms of trade.

In the past it was traders in wooden sailing dhows, attracted to Dubai by its winding seawater creek, who brought goods from the Gulf, Africa and India.

Nowadays motorised dhows still line the creek. But Dubai's trading hub is focused on two deep-water ports, Rashid and Jabel Ali, built in the 1970s to maintain the emirate's commercial eminence.

Last year the two ports handled three quarters of Dubai's 48.4 billion dirham (\$14 billion) non-oil trade, according to the local

Chamber of Commerce. Its non-oil trade was more than double the total of the other six sheikhdoms joined with Dubai in the United Arab Emirates. It was also more than four times the \$3-billion 1991 non-oil trade of Bahrain, Dubai's main trade rival in the Gulf.

Imports, mainly from Asia, accounted for the bulk of trade, but some imports are turned around for reexport to the region. Despite disruption of the Gulf war in the first three months of 1991, reexport trade to Gulf Arab states doubled from 1989 levels to reach 2.67 billion dirhams (\$730 million) last year.

"The first quarter of 1991 reexports were almost dead because of the Gulf crisis, since most of our reexports go to neighbouring countries," said Abdul Rahman Al Mutaiwee, director-general of

Dubai's Chamber of Commerce. "But since then it's improved," he said. "Although Kuwait's harbour is reconstructed completely they are using some of our facilities here and importing goods from here."

Iran, with whom trade links remain strong despite the ebb and flow of political relations, took 2.07 billion dirhams (\$565 million) of Dubai's reexports last year.

Reexports — electrical goods, cars and textiles — also reached farther afield to Asia, Europe and the United States.

Dubai's non-oil exports were dominated by aluminium ingots produced at Jabel Ali. Aluminium and other metal exports accounted for more than half the 2.79 billion dirham (\$760 million) export market in 1991.

The emirate's commercial

dominance is partly explained by its strategic position midway between the industrial centres of the Far East and Europe.

But local business acumen and the government's enthusiasm to slash the red tape which plagues business in other parts of the Gulf are also important factors.

"Dubai traders are shrewd businessmen. They have been able to trade beyond the geography of our area," said Sultan Bin Sulayem, chairman of the Dubai Ports Authority.

"And government policies are very pro-business. Whatever affects business, they modify it. Whatever will encourage business, they will make it better."

An integral part of Jabel Ali Port, which boasts the world's largest man-made harbour, is its "free trade zone," where companies can operate at 100 per cent

foreign ownership without paying income or corporation tax.

The free zone has attracted more than 400 international firms to set up in Jabel Ali, which in turn handled around 8.5 billion

dirhams (\$2.3 billion) worth of trade last year.

But Jabel Ali's high-tech distribution network still faces stiff competition from the more traditional dhows pouring in and out

of the creek.

The wooden dhows, mostly around 20 metres long, fill to overflowing with goods ranging from television sets and washing machines to cars and breakfast

cereals. They sail not only to Gulf Arab states but also Iran, Yemen and East African countries. Last year they handled 7.27 billion dirhams (\$2 billion) worth of goods.

## More houses collapse in quake-hit Cairo

(Continued from page 1)

being treated in hospitals. One hundred and thirty-nine buildings had totally collapsed and 2,682 others had been damaged.

President Mubarak visited two hospitals in the poor northern district of Shubra Al Khaymah, where scores of children were killed and injured stampeding in terror out of their schools after the quake struck.

He confirmed that the government had raised compensation for victims of the quake by 10 times, to 5,000 pounds (\$1,500) for the family of each person killed and 1,000 (\$300) for each person injured.

"Everyone who lost his house, whether owner or tenant, will get a house and we will try our best to compensate them because they are Egyptian citizens," Mr. Mubarak told reporters. "We will not leave people living in the streets."

Muslim fundamentalists, the main political opposition in Egypt, have accused the government of acting too slowly.

Issam Al Arayan, assistant secretary-general of the fundamentalist-run doctors' syndicate, told Reuters Wednesday his humanitarian relief committee had put up 50 tents at eight points around the city of 12 million people.

Mr. Mubarak spoke to reporters while touring two hospitals in the Cairo suburb of Shubra Al Khaymah amid stringent security. Hundreds of riot policemen carrying sticks and wearing visors lined the streets.

"The situation could have been worse, but God has been merciful," Mr. Mubarak citing earthquakes in other countries with casualties in the hundreds of thousands.

Mr. Mubarak said Japan "is the country with the largest experience with earthquakes and we, naturally, will benefit from this. We shall request its expertise."

Earthquake experts appearing on television said Egypt needs from Japan both monitoring equipment and guidance on quake-proof construction.

Immediately on his return Tuesday night, Mr. Mubarak chaired an emergency cabinet meeting to grapple with the financial and other obligations growing out of the disaster.

He estimated that up to \$140 million were needed for reconstruction, relief and victims' compensation — a large amount in cash-strapped Egypt.

But pledges of financial help from abroad quickly exceeded \$190 million. There were \$60 million from Libya, \$50 million from Saudi Arabia, \$40 million from the United Arab Emirates, \$20 million each from Kuwait and Qatar, \$600,000 from Japan and \$195,000 from the European Community.

A search for survivors continued Wednesday at the ruins of a 14-story apartment block in suburban Heliopolis. Mr. Mubarak visited the site Tuesday.

By Wednesday afternoon, the Ministry of Interior said 28 bodies had been pulled from the rubble pile in Heliopolis — 17 up from Tuesday night's tally. Up to 15 tenants survived and rescue workers told interviewers they did not expect to find anybody else alive.

Before Wednesday's collapses, the government said 536 buildings nationwide had crumbled or were seriously damaged.

"At the cabinet session, Mr. Mubarak ordered that all families who lost their homes be housed in newly built government-owned apartment blocks. He also decreed provisional compensation of \$1,500 to each family that lost its home or bread-earner pending final assessment of losses."

Just about the only good news greeting Mr. Mubarak on his return was that most of the capital was unscathed by the tremor, despite the frenzy of a traumatised population.

The country's suspect infrastructure — Cairo's expensive network of expressway overpasses, subway, system, newly laid gas pipelines, aged sewage and water lines, electricity grid — hardly missed a beat during the earthquake or afterwards.

## Arafat campaigns for support

(Continued from page 1)

"The difference between them and us is that we try to make this frustration a power that can be used to back the position of our negotiators, while they try to use it against the PLO," Mr. Abed Rabbo said.

Mr. Rabbo and many of the PLO officials who support the peace talks believe Mr. Arafat will be able to win a comfortable majority in the 80-member PCC, giving Palestinian negotiators the support they need to go into next week's talks.

But a leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) reiterated his group would press the council for a resolution demanding a Palestinian pullout.

Abdul Rahim Malouh, a member of the front's politburo, told the Associated Press the Palestinians should withdraw from the parley "because it failed to achieve its objectives."

The same position is expected to be taken by the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), which argues the talks cannot succeed as long as the balance of power in the Middle East is not in the Palestinians' favour.

The two groups had asked for a postponement of Thursday's council meeting, but their request was turned down.

## Somali warlord plans counter-attack

(Continued from page 1)

Care withdrew its last three staff in Bardera on Tuesday after it was attacked but assured Mr. Morgan's supporters it would return as soon as its famished inhabitants did.

"We were in Bardera to feed displaced people. But all these people fled to escape the fighting. So we will go where there is need, as long as there is security," he

told Reuters. Aid agencies say they are caught between their mission to save Somali lives and the need to ensure the safety of dozens of their staff scattered around pockets of need across the country.

The Bardera attack showed the vulnerability of world efforts to stop one million people dying from starvation in a country which has had no government and no real peace for two years.

The PFLP, DFLP and two other Palestinian groups Wednesday urged the Palestinian negotiators to boycott the seventh round.

They also urged a complete pullout from future talks. Representatives of the four groups displayed at a Damascus news conference petitions they said were signed by 60,000 Palestinians in Syria demanding their right to return home and strongly rejecting any solutions that falls short of that.

Israel rejects the refugees' return and only is prepared to negotiate with Palestinians in the occupied territories for a measure of autonomy.

"We declare our opposition to the policies of the Madrid-Washington team and ask it to withdraw from the talks," the petitions said.

The petitions were addressed to U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali and other international bodies.

The Palestine Liberation Front and the Popular Struggle Front were the other two groups.

"The Palestinian negotiating team has entered a dangerous track by presenting the autonomy plan," said Dawood Talhami, a member of the DFLP politburo.

He said: "The four guerrilla groups will fight it inside the Central Council."

## Senior U.N. officials in Baghdad

(Continued from page 1)

street in front of the UNICEF building to protest the U.N. sanctions as Mr. Grant began his four-day visit.

They munch cucumber sandwiches provided by their schools and drank water from large copper bowls kept on the roadside.

UNICEF spokeswoman Alison Warner said Mr. Grant met with Foreign Minister Mohammad Saeed Al Sabah and was scheduled to see Deputy Prime Minister Tareq Aziz.

Mr. Grant will also visit the cities of Basra in southern Iraq and Mosul, Zakho and Dohuk in the north.

Jan Eliasson, U.N. under-secretary general for humanitarian affairs, told reporters in New York that the mission on Kurdish relief is also designed to revive

relief programme for other parts of Iraq, which also were stalled in July when the U.N.-Baghdad agreement ended.

Shaukat Fareed, Mr. Eliasson's deputy, also arrived with Mr. Grant and he was expected to hold discussions on the issue.

There was no immediate U.N. comment available on the talks' progress.

Relations between Iraq and the United Nations, accused by Baghdad of being a tool of the United States, have deteriorated with continuation of the embargo imposed after its invasion of Kuwait.

Iraq maintains that it has met most requirements of U.N. ceasefire resolutions and wants the Security Council to ease the embargo.

## Yemeni ballot

(Continued from page 1)

Under the May 1990 merger, voting for a 301-member parliament must be held when a 30-month transitional period expires.

The elections are crucial for the future of the fledgling republic. But complex tribal and ideological differences have yet to be resolved.

The northern Islamic factions are demanding the imposition of Sharia, anathema to the southern leftists. The ruling parties of the two former Yemens are currently represented in a transitional parliament.

Under the multi-party system introduced with the merger, between 40 and 50 political groups are now bracing to contest the elections in this country of 12 million people.

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## Questions for Celtic camp

WALTHAM, Massachusetts (AP) — Can Dee Brown become a dominant point guard? Are Kevin McHale's feet healthy enough to survive a full season? Can Reggie Lewis and newcomer Xavier McDaniel emerge as team leaders?

And, most importantly, is there life after Larry Bird?

The Boston Celtics opened their first training camp of the post-Bird era this week with new faces and troubling questions. While most of the attention was focused on a man who was not there, the team began its search for players who will inherit Bird's scoring and leadership roles.

Though last featured the emergence of Lewis as a big scorer — he averaged 21 points per game in the regular season and 28 points in the playoffs — it was wrecked by injuries or illnesses to Bird, McHale and Brown.

Bird was limited to 45 games during the regular season and missed six of Boston's 10 playoff games with back problems. McHale missed 26 games with ankle and calf problems, while Brown was benched by knee and thigh injuries and vertigo.

Though players say Bird's retirement saves them from a repeat of last year's uncertainty about his ability to play, they miss the three-time NBA Most Valuable Player.

"Larry won't be with us, and I really think that's going to help us," mentally speaking," said Robert Parish, who was on three National Basketball Association championship teams with Bird.

"We won't be on that emotion-

al roller coaster, anticipating his return," Parish said. "To know that he's not going to be around, I think we're going to have the stability we didn't have the last couple of years."

The Celtics finished the regular season last year with eight straight victories and then swept the Indiana Pacers in the first round of the playoffs — all without Bird, who was sidelined with back spasms. Bird returned for the second round against Cleveland and the Celtics were beaten in seven games.

"Last season you would play three or four games and he would be around, he'd be practicing, you'd see him in the locker room," said Dee Brown. "But now you know he's not coming back, so we start knowing he's going to be there."

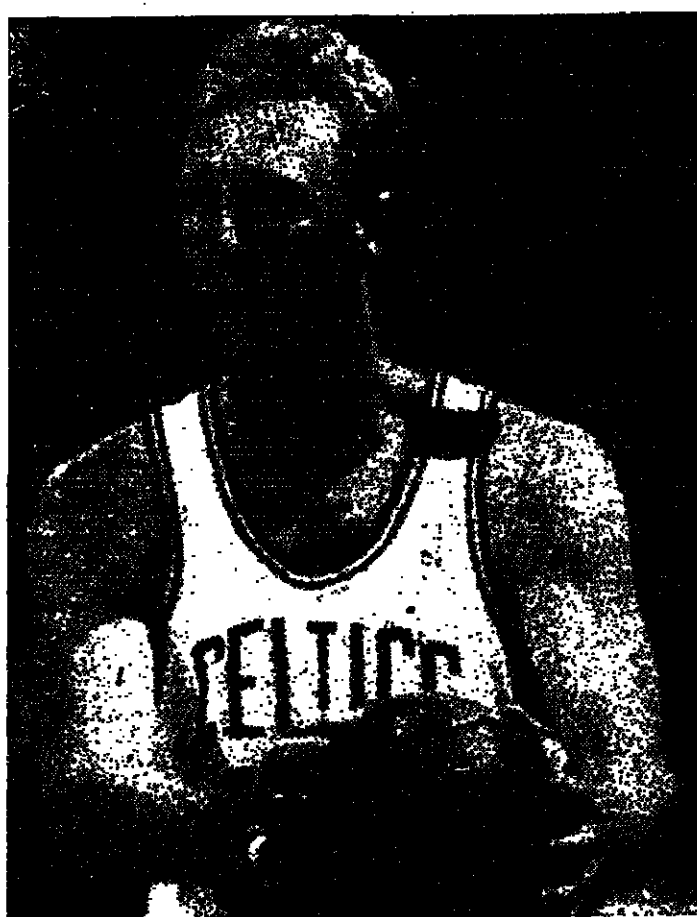
Brown, a third-year guard who regarded Bird as a mentor, said Bird's absence will be felt in the locker room as much as on the court.

"Emotionally it's going to be a void there, because No. 33's not there," Brown said. "He's Larry. He got all the attention. He's not here now, and the tension's going to have to spread somewhere else."

"Things are going to be tough," Brown said. "Everybody's counting us out because Larry's not there and we have to adjust, but we've still got a good team."

Brown, who has shifted between point and shooting guard, will be trying to concentrate on the point.

"I've been working on it for the



Larry Bird

last three years here," he said. "Coach (Chris) Ford has stressed to me that if I want to do big things on this team in the future, I have to be at the point guard position."

Kevin McHale joined the Celtics in 1980-81, a year after Bird. With Parish, the trio formed the dominant front court of the 1980s, maybe of all time.

"Larry was a hell of a player and a hell of a teammate, and we had a lot of fun together. If anything I'd like to go back and replay some of those years," McHale said. "Of course I'm going to miss him. We did a lot of stuff out there on the court that was tremendous."

McHale said the next generation of Celtics must take Bird's place, and rejected suggestions that basketball would be weakened by his retirement. If that were true, he said, the NBA never would have survived the retirements of Bill Russell of Wilt Chamberlain.

"Michael Jordan probably never saw Wilt Chamberlain play. I go to schools now and the kids never heard of Dr. J," McHale said. "Old timers cannot play this game."

"I dread training camp," he said. "The thought of two-a-days is no fun. You're going to be sore and you're going to be tired. That's

almost like an age-old ritual, you have to beat yourself near to death to be able to play NBA basketball."

Ed Pinckney said it will be hard to compensate for Bird's experience and leadership.

"We always had the luxury of knowing that maybe three or four games from now we'd have him, or going into the playoffs that we'd have him," Pinckney said.

"His locker was right next to mine. There was always a certain air around when he was in the locker room and then when we stepped out onto the court. It will take us a while to get used to that."

Top draft pick Jon Barry has not yet signed a contract and is not at training camp, but McDaniel's move from New York could significantly change the Celtics. He gives Boston much more muscle up front.

"He brings us that aggressiveness, that tenacity that we haven't had for a while, since Danny Ainge and M.L. Carr," said center Robert Parish, starting his 17th year in the National Basketball Association. "And I think that's something you need in any front court. You need that toughness, somebody that goes out and plays that hard-nosed type of basketball."

## Golfers brave scorpions, sun and sand in Jordan

By Jane Arraf  
Reuter

AMMAN — The hazards can be deadly at this desert golf course where sinking a difficult putt may get you more than a birdie. "We found a scorpion in here the other night," said golfer Hilal Salah, sticking his hand into the metal cup on the first hole to retrieve a ball.

Welcome to Jordan's only golf course, where greens are "browns" and a five-iron can come in handy against venomous snakes.

Lizards, high winds, rock-strewn hills, knee-high wild grass, clumps of thistles and the occasional sheep add to the challenge of the Bisharat Golf Course, named after the man who owns the land.

"They're very woolly. They don't seem to mind when you hit them. The ball just bounces off," said a European diplomat, asking for anonymity for fear of accusations of cruelty to animals.

The two-year-old club now boasts about 200 members, but Jordanians, who count polo and bagpipes among the legacies of British rule, make up only about 20 percent of the membership.

Special events at the nine-hole course such as the Jordan Open and invitational tournaments bring out golfers from neighboring countries and members of the royal family.

A winding road lined with pine trees meanders past picnic families before reaching the gates of the club, about 12 km (seven miles) from Amman, where red flags fly over rock-strewn hills covered in thistles, wild grass and herbs.

A fragment of a Roman column, a hint of the archaeological wealth under the surface, lies on the ground, surrounded by bits of ceramic mosaic between the weeds.

The scent of wild thyme wafts through the air as the ball slices through the clear desert sky.

"This is the worst thing about this course, you spend most of your time looking for balls," said Salah, searching for a flash of neon-yellow in thickets of tangled brown grass and thistle.

"The best hole I ever did was a hole in two aiming directly between the ears of a donkey standing between me and the hole," said British diplomat Henry Hogger.

Players tee off the 11 months of the year when the course is not covered with snow. In the heat of summer, when temperatures rise to 45 Celsius (113 Fahrenheit), only the resident reptiles brave the daytime sun.

Members say the course is inhabited by a species of poisonous snake native to the region which usually stay out of sight but sometimes leave their markers — cast-off skins — next to their holes.

Across the links, an ancient stone wall makes up part of an unexcavated Byzantine castle.

"I can never find the ball when it goes in there," said Salah, a Scottish-educated Palestinian accountant.

Late-model luxury cars are parked outside the summer clubhouse — a goat and camel-hair bedouin tent anchored by big rocks.

The winter clubhouse, a cave, lay unused in the early autumn, green mold covering the walls and the roof charred black from campfire smoke.

Instead of greens — the water-hungry manicured grass which makes traditional golf courses — there are "browns," sand mixed with motor oil to keep it from blowing away.

Golfers carry a small mat of green artificial turf to tee off on the course.

"It's not like a European course, but there are so many hazards it's extremely challenging," said Salah. "With the rough patches all over the course a good shot does not mean you're there."

### Water-skiing championship begins

AMMAN (J.T.) — Teams representing ten countries Wednesday began competition in an international water-skiing championship for the handicapped. Competitors from France, Italy, England, Austria, Germany, Russia, Spain, the Netherlands, Turkey and Jordan began preliminary round competitions Wednesday and Thursday and will compete in the final round Friday. The competition is held under the patronage of His Majesty King Hussein.

### HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY OCTOBER 16, 1992

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** A fine Friday finish with various practical matters that are facing you and to accomplish them efficiently, working every possible angle to eliminate whatever doesn't suit you at present.

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) Usual and routine associates will join with outside associates to aid you to make the progress you desire after attending to any obligations.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) Give some extra thought to a work problem, get it in back of you early, then you will be able to get out in the world to achieve something unusual.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) Make sure that you do what a strong minded person desires early after which you will be able to be off to and engage in some interesting new project.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) Don't commit yourself early to an extravagance then you will be able to get into a better course of action for handling practical matters in a up to date fashion.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) Consider well early what your family expects of you and do it after which you will be able to contact an unconventional person and get progressive ideas.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 22) Answer a message that irks you smoothly early for later you will be

able to find some new gadget or means by which to bring activities up to date.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) Don't hold back but get that debt paid early in the day for then you will be able to be off to the congenial pleasures that means so much to you.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) Think about a personal duty you have that you have neglected doing, get it done in the morning then you can turn your attention to home, make it more sparkling.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) Eliminate a frustration from your consciousness for you then will be able to get off to see and be with those you like in the outside world.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 20) If you have a strong wish to be gained do it early for the best part of the day and tonight should be utilized for handling your practical matters in current fashion.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) Handle a public matter with astuteness so you then will be able to get into highly personal duties of an unique manner type.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) Whatever brings you some new outlet early has some unwise strings attached so spend your time investigating all phases of new ways to adopt your ambitions.

### GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF  
AND TAMARA HIRSCH  
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#### WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

**Q.1—** Both vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠7 ♣J7652 ♠Q64 ♠AK73  
The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
Pass Pass 1 ♠ Pass  
? What do you bid now?

**Q.2—** Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠AKQJ65 ♣QJ5 ♠Void ♠AQ105  
The bidding has proceeded:  
East South West North  
1 ♠ ? What do you take?

**Q.3—** Both vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠S 6 ♠AKJ62 ♠AKJ1054  
Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with one club! What action do you take?

**Q.4—** Both vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠K1063 ♣Q76 ♠S ♠A83  
The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass  
? What do you bid now?

**Q.5—** Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠664 ♣6 ♠AQ1063 ♠J763  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 ♠ 2 ♠ ? What action do you take now?

**Q.6—** As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠K65 ♣974 ♠KJ3 ♠AK102  
The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass  
? What do you bid now?

### HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY OCTOBER 15, 1992

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** It's the right time for added awareness and understanding of the need to extend your interests and horizons far beyond their present boundaries and to form new associations with powerful men.

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) Get out in the world early and devise a course of action to bring your efficiency to the attention of those in power, later take no risks, changes.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) Many ways to make advancement by getting modern ways of operating are now possible for you so be more openminded and tonight avoid strangers.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) You can find out from one of a practical turn of mind what is best to have a better system for attending to what your obligations, then enjoy a game tonight.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) Approach a business person in just a factual and objective stance as that person and you can reach a new accord while tonight relax on results.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) Think about how you can put more nitty-gritty expression into your usual jobs and you produce finer results, tonight take good care of your health.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 22) A fine day to get yourself ready

for the pleasures and entertainments that you like best, make appointments for them, tonight avoid any extra-vagance.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) Matters at your residence need to be concerned at a more serious level so conditions can be better for sometime to come, tonight don't irritate your family.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) You have many down to earth communications to get out so don't lose time but get into and do them, but tonight avoid any critical comments to anyone.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) Now you are eager to get your material affairs in better shape and you can do so by steady application to them but tonight don't go beyond planned budget.

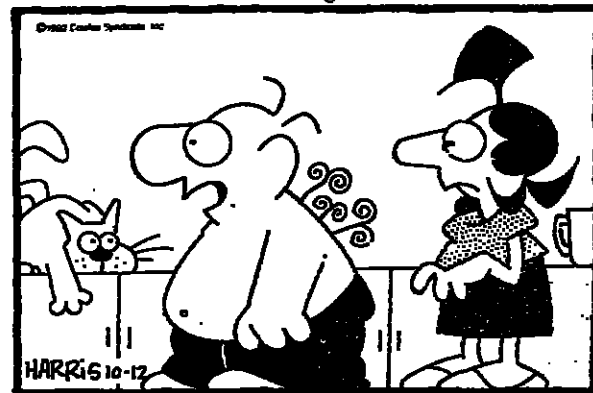
**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 20) Take some time out now to get the various interests you have rightly placed in your life so you can be more efficient with them, then relax tonight.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) You have a multitude of behind the scenes intimate matter to get behind you and have a very good day to do so, then tonight relax on your laurels.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) Contact as many friends and acquaintances as possible who have the expertise to aid gain your personal longings, accept their assistance.

### THE BETTER HALF

By Harris



"Women make insulting remarks about men with hairy backs...so I had mine professionally styled!"

### JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

ASTEE

GOOLI

CUSPER

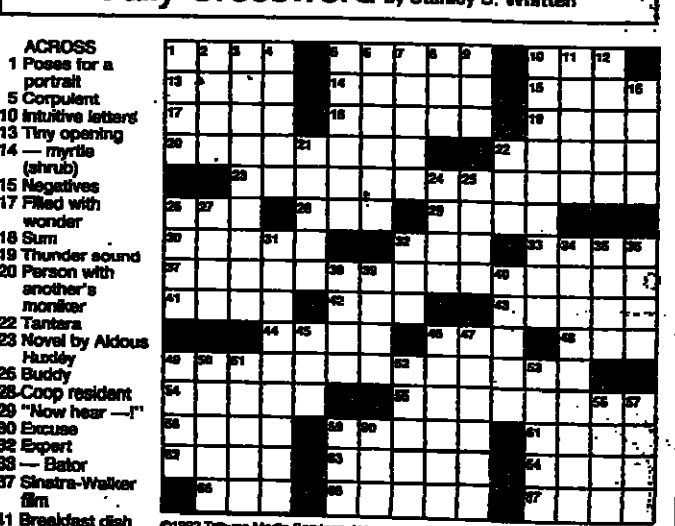
UNLACH

Answers: VALET CHASM SHANTY HECKLE

Yesterday's Jumbles: VALET CHASM SHANTY HECKLE

Answer: Why the hen sat on an egg—SO SHE COULD HATCH-ET!

### THE Daily Crossword by Stanley B. Whitten



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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

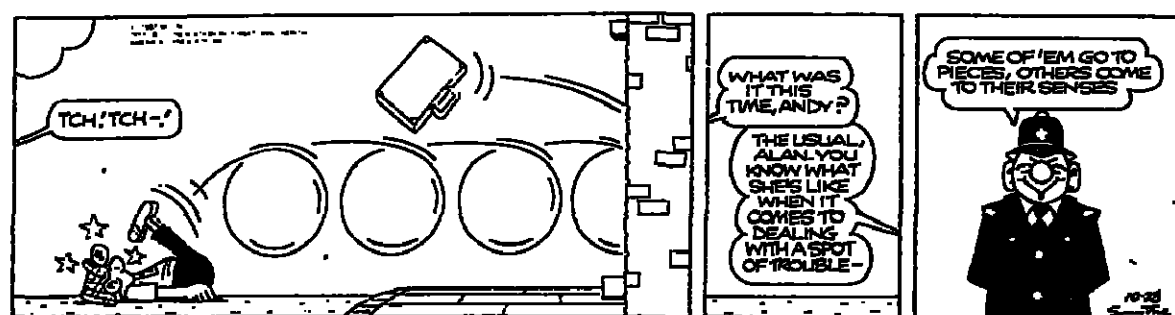
1 Consumed  
2 Resent  
3 Snigger's prey  
4 Hemmed-in area  
5 System or focus  
6 Headless item  
7 Master, in colonial India  
8 Bahamas etc.  
9 Engrave  
10 Yappel  
11 Window glass  
12 Sleep like  
13 Cover with stars  
14 Lawyer: abbr.  
15 Certain work of art  
16 Showy  
17 Roof beam  
18 Mahal etc.  
19 Military group  
20 Sated fish  
21 Well done!

2 Secure, aboard ship  
3 Good  
4 Level  
5 mishap  
6 Shipwreck  
7 Couples' org.

### Peanuts



### Andy Capp



### Mutt'n'Jeff





## Financial Markets

Currency	NEW YORK CLOSE Date: 13/10/92	TOKYO CLOSE Date: 14/10/92
US Dollar	1.7180	1.7145
Deutsche Mark	1.4627	1.4645
Swiss Franc	1.5044	1.5066
French Franc	4.9670	4.9510**
Japanese Yen	121.12	121.10
European Currency Unit	1.3325	1.3374**

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	5.18	3.31	3.31	3.50
Sterling Pound	8.75	8.56	8.37	8.12
Deutsche Mark	6.93	6.93	6.56	6.06
Swiss Franc	6.18	6.37	6.37	6.25
French Franc	11.50	11.00	10.31	9.68
Japanese Yen	4.00	5.81	3.68	3.68
European Currency Unit	11.37	11.06	10.63	10.25

Currency	USD/Oz	JD/Gm	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Gold	344.45	6.60	Silver	5.70	.082

\* 21 Karat  
Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin  
Date: 14/10/92

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.677	0.679
Sterling Pound	1.1597	1.1655
Deutsche Mark	0.4617	0.4640
Swiss Franc	0.5176	0.5202
French Franc	0.1361	0.1368
Japanese Yen	0.5584	0.5612
Dutch Guilder	0.4103	0.4124
Swedish Krona	0.1228	0.1234
Italian Lira	0.0522	0.0525
Belgian Franc	0.02241	0.02252

Currency	Bid	Offer
Lebanese Lira	0.02820	0.02950
Saudi Riyal	0.1802	0.1815
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.2350	2.3000
Qatari Riyal	0.1835	0.1855
Egyptian Pound	0.2000	0.2100
Omani Riyal	1.7260	1.7560
UAE Dirham	0.1835	0.1855
Greek Drachma	0.3555	0.3755
Cypriot Pound	1.5360	1.5560

Index	12/10/92	Close	13/10/92	Close
All-Share	151.69		151.61	
Banking Sector	115.48		111.30	
Insurance Sector	161.98		162.90	
Industry Sector	197.66		197.61	
Services Sector	220.15		220.30	

## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One sterling	1.7070/80	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.2407/12	Canadian dollar
	1.4615/25	Deutsche marks
	1.6420/70	Dutch guilders
	1.3020/35	Swiss francs
	30.0307	Belgian francs
	4.9585/635	French francs
	1293/1298	Italian lire
	121.05/15	Japanese yen
	5.4825/925	Swedish crowns
	5.9330/430	Norwegian crowns
	5.6200/300	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	\$343.30/343.80	

## New study shows U.S. workers more productive than Japan, Germany

BALTIMORE (AP) — U.S. workers are more productive than their German or Japanese counterparts, largely because of America's highly competitive and open trade environment, the authors of a new study said Tuesday.

U.S. workers are 11 per cent more productive than West German workers and 23 per cent more productive than Japanese workers, said William Lewis, director of the McKinsey Global Institute, which sponsored the study of five big industrial nations.

Productivity is the ratio of goods and services produced to the resources used to produce them. Worker productivity measures goods and services produced by employees in an hour, week or year.

Mr. Lewis said the findings should dispel the notion that America should follow the lead of other nations.

"There's a lot of talk about how the U.S. should adopt a model from another country if economic operations in those countries were proving to be more productive," he said. "But we found no evidence of that, so it's not obvious the United States should look to copy a model from somewhere else."

"It's more a case of making this model work better," Mr. Lewis said.

Researchers had expected to find the five countries about equal because of the increasingly global marketplace and were surprised by the results, Mr. Lewis said.

Dr. Wessly Leontis of the Institute for Economic Analysis at New York University said the results also surprised him.

"The wages of American workers are not the highest, they are lower than some other countries, and usually wages are supposed to reflect productivity," Dr. Leontis said. "Supposedly, the more productive labour is, the higher wages usually are."

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.677	0.679
Sterling Pound	1.1597	1.1655
Deutsche Mark	0.4617	0.4640
Swiss Franc	0.5176	0.5202
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Services Sector	220.15		220.30	

## Anti-inflation strike grips Lebanon

BEIRUT (AP) — Banks, schools, newspapers, restaurants and cinemas were closed Wednesday in a general strike to protest Lebanon's worsening economic crisis.

In the major cities, there was wide observance of the one-day strike called by the 350,000-member General Federation of Labour unions.

But a few groceries, boutiques, snack bars and flower shops in Beirut and south and north Lebanon opened. Some owners said they did not want their merchandise to rot and others said they did not want to lose money.

"What's the use of striking when the value of the lira continues to depreciate?" said Roni Abi-Aad, co-owner of a supermarket in east Beirut.

"I'd rather open and make money than close the shop and have fun," he added.

The labour federation called the strike to protest the rapid decline of the Lebanese currency, which rated 2,340 to the U.S. dollar in the Beirut money market Tuesday.

A rate of 2,100 to the dollar sparked nationwide violence May 6 and forced the government of then-prime minister Omar Karame to resign.

The lira, which sold at 2.5 to the dollar before the 1975-1990 civil war, was trading at 1,750 to the dollar when Prime Minister Rashid Solh formed his cabinet May 13. It was reached 2,800 to the dollar during his term.

Mr. Solh's government is supposed to resign Friday, when Lebanon's newly elected parliament is seated to replace the house that was elected 20 years ago.

A labour union statement said the strike was "just a warning."

"If the new government proves to be incapable of arresting the prices then we shall step up our opposition," it said.

The decline of the lira, which has been attributed to government overspending and corruption, sent prices sky high in a nation that imports at least 85 per cent of its basic needs.

With the minimum wage standing at 118,000 Lebanese liras (roughly \$50) a month, the ordinary man in Lebanon cannot make ends meet unless he has three jobs.

## Iraq ready to trade oil futures

BAGHDAD (R) — With its hard cash coffers empty and gold reserves depleting, Iraq offered Wednesday to sell oil futures in return for food and medicine.

Trade Minister Mohammad Mehdi Saleh told the government newspaper Al Jumhuriyah his country was prepared to strike deals and pay later either in cash or future oil deliveries.

"Iraq is ready to sign contracts with various foreign companies to buy food and medicine, provided that the costs be covered by Iraq's frozen assets...or deferred payment to be made by value of Iraqi oil when exports are permitted," he said.

The United Nations has seized part of Iraq's assets frozen abroad and will channel some of this to its weapons inspection missions in Iraq and needy Iraqi Kurds and other minorities.

Mr. Saleh put the amount of assets "seized by the U.N. at \$1 billion." That represents more than 50 per cent of Iraq's oil assets deposited in foreign banks," he said.

He said Iraq had concluded contracts worth \$4.5 billion with foreign companies to buy food and medicine. "But the American persistence not to open letters of credit denied Iraq the opportunity of using these assets."

The minister said Iraq had deposits worth \$350 million in the Swiss-based Bank for International Settlements but was prevented from using them to cover its humanitarian needs.

Mr. Saleh said last month that the seizure of the Iraqi assets abroad would undo many commercial contracts for food and medical supplies and curtail its ability to maintain subsidised milk powder ration for babies up to one year old.

The assets seizure caused a slump in the value of the Iraqi dinar and led to a hike in prices of essential commodities.

As part of a plan of action announced by President Saddam Hussein last August Iraq banned almost all but essential food stuffs from entering the country and traders have to clear them from their shelves by November.

A government crackdown on profiteering and illegal hoarding led to the execution of 42 traders last July. As a result, most traders now shun business and the government's efforts to coax them back to work have almost failed.

Prices of certain commodities like sugar, rice and tea have almost doubled since last July but the government is still capable of shipping these commodities to its stores and community shops at prices far below those of the spot market.

## 'Westerners steal Russian oil'

MOSCOW (R) — Russia's top corruption hunter has accused crooked Western businessmen of siphoning off three quarters of the profits due to his country from its dwindling sales of oil abroad.

"I think that no more than a quarter of the real value of the oil we export is returned to the country," Mikhail Gurtovoy, who heads a government anti-corruption team, told the daily newspaper Trud.

"We already have proof that the money for millions of tonnes of our oil has ebbed away into the bank accounts of Western firms," he pointed out.

Oil is Russia's biggest foreign exchange earner, but output is falling dramatically from 1990's 515 million tonnes to an estimated 395 million this year and 340 million in 1993.

The government does not have the cash to revamp the sector's ageing infrastructure despite its desperation to lift sagging export levels. Rusting equipment has left 27,000 oil wells standing idle at a cost of 30 million tonnes a year.

Mr. Gurtovoy said Russia, pushed by its need to attract foreign investment in the energy sector, let in a "swarm of petty crooks" from abroad when it allowed foreign and Russian firms to set up oil-producing joint ventures (JVs).

The big, respectable Western companies, which Russia had hoped to attract prudently kept away.

"(The JVs) take oil from state reserves, which should be used for our needs. They steal it and sneak it abroad," Mr. Gurtovoy said.

He cited an unnamed JV which signed an agreement to sink a certain number of oil wells over a certain period.

Sales of the oil would be exempt from normal Russian legislation compelling exporters to change their foreign currency earnings back into rubles.

Mr. Gurtovoy said his documents showed the company had in fact "acquired" 700,000 tonnes of oil and successfully applied for export permits, but had not done any drilling.

"Not a single well was sunk... so where did it come from?" he asked. "What kind of supply process is it when you can get oil from undrilled wells?"

The Russian partner, which had hoped for efficient new wells, was left empty-handed.

Mr. Gurtovoy said he was sympathetic to Russian oil workers who took small bribes from dishonest employers to smooth the illegal passage of oil or sales profits abroad.

## Indian bourses to move towards national market

BOMBAY (R) — Indian stock exchange chiefs have agreed to set up a national stock market system linking the country's major bourses as part of moves to improve India's capital markets.

After a two-day meeting in Bombay exchange presidents said they had agreed to move towards the establishment of a national trading system that could eventually link the country's 21 stock exchanges.

But the exchange chiefs did not spell out a timetable, which would depend on the successful computerisation of the bourses.

Gathering in the wake of India's worst financial scandal, which sent stock prices nosediving in April, the exchange chiefs met to consider a series of reforms to improve market efficiency, protect investors and curb insider trading.

G.V. Ramakrishna, chairman of the regulatory Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), said it was essential for India's bourses to become more efficient to underpin the country's transformation from a state-controlled economy to a market-driven one.

Mr. Mayya, executive director of the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE), which accounts for two-thirds of shares traded, said the meeting was a success.

"We made progress towards reform," he told Reuters.

The national meeting agreed to extend the trading hours of the bourses to three hours from the present two, strengthen protection for investors, reinforce penalties for brokers guilty of malpractice, and speed up settlement periods for share deals.

Mr. Mayya said the exchange presidents were agreed in principle on creating a national trading system that would link the major bourses across the country of 850 million people.

But the feasibility of this still had to be explored in a nation where communications remain inadequate and computerisation of the exchanges is only just starting.

Around 6,500 stocks are listed on Indian exchanges. With 15 million shareholders, the country has one of the biggest investor bases in the developing world. Under initial suggestions, only the top 100 would be traded through the national system.

Market sources said some brokers at the BSE may oppose the plan, which could undermine the preeminence of the Bombay exchange, which was founded in 1887.

The stock exchange chiefs said they aimed to reduce settlement periods for securities to one week from the present two. But one exchange president said this could take time, and was unlikely to be implemented before March.

Mr. Ramakrishna said that India was at a crucial stage in its programme of radical reform.

SEBI is keen to increase the efficiency of exchanges as part of government measures to clean up the financial system following exposure of a \$1.2 billion securities scandal involving brokers and bank officials.

With the liberalising of the economy and the opening of Indian bourses to foreign institutional investment there was a growing need to improve the operation of the country's stock exchanges, Mr. Ramakrishna said.

Among measures to protect investors were the speeding up of arbitration procedures, and the imposition of fines or delisting of erring brokers.

Annual inspection of brokers' books would be carried out, and capital adequacy norms laid down. The government will also introduce legislation in parliament in November to curb insider trading.

Mr. Ramakrishna said that without reforms India's capital markets would not be able to attract the foreign investment required to transform the economy and underpin the government's liberalisation programme.

## Olivetti announces big losses

IVREA, Italy (R) — Computer maker Ing C. Olivetti Co. SPA has shipped deeper into the red in the first half of 1992 as prices slumped for its key products.

Olivetti, which announced a loss before tax of 93 billion lire (\$33 million), up 27 per cent from last year, said it had suffered from the slowdown in the world economy and an unprecedented fall in prices for personal computers.

Personal computer prices had slumped 40 per cent over the first half of the year, it said.

"The decline in operating profits and the sharpening of competitive pressures have had a heavy impact on the company's results," Olivetti said in a statement.

It did not give any forecast for the full year. Olivetti lost 460 billion lire (\$171.6 million) in the whole of 1991, its first loss for 13 years.

**Dr. Chung.**

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## Serb fighters launch new attacks in north Bosnia

**SARAJEVO (R)** — Serb forces unleashed artillery and infantry assaults Wednesday against Gradacac, the last town still held by Muslims in north Bosnia, as fighting in the area flared again after a brief lull.

Government-controlled Sarajevo Radio said renewed shelling of the town began Tuesday night and continued into Wednesday morning, killing two people and wounding four.

The radio said three people were killed and 10 wounded when Serb fighters shelled villages around Brcko, another key north Bosnian town, which fell to the Serbs last weekend. It said Serb tanks fired on the village of Mag-laj.

North Bosnia is now for the most part firmly in the hands of the Serbs, who control 70 per cent of the entire republic and are carrying out the last stages of "ethnic cleansing," the forcible removal of non-Serbs, in a region around the town of Kotor Varos.

Serbs forced open a lifeline corridor through north Bosnia linking Serbia proper with their Krajina enclave in Croatia this week after fighting had closed it down.

The corridor is the only supply route for Krajina and has become even more vital with the approach of the bitter Balkan winter.

The resurgence of fighting came as Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic offered to move all Serb planes to rump Yugoslavia in compliance with a United Nations "no-fly zone" over Bosnia.

The Serb offer followed a U.N. Security Council resolution Friday banning military flights over Bosnia, a ban that the Serbs violated immediately Saturday when their warplanes took to the skies over north Bosnia.

Mr. Karadzic said he made the offer at a meeting with international mediator Lord Owen Tuesday evening to end "a mix-up over whether we fly or not."

"I wanted to contribute to peace and a cessation of hostilities," Mr. Karadzic said in Geneva where he is taking part in an international peace conference on the former Yugoslavia.

Diplomats said Mr. Karadzic had come under great pressure after Serb planes openly defied the ban, and faced the prospect of the no-fly zone being enforced by the U.N.

But the air force commander of Bosnia's Serbs, General Zivota Ninkovic, denied knowing of the proposal, adding to the confusion and raising the question of how much control Mr. Karadzic has of events on the ground.

Mr. Karadzic said he had not consulted Gen. Ninkovic, who has vowed to fight the U.S. Air Force if necessary, but had spoken directly to General Ratko Mladic, the commander-in-chief of the Bosnian Serb forces.

Sarajevo appeared quiet Wednesday with only some sporadic shooting and repair crews prepared to go into the field to try once again to restore basic utilities.

Overhead transmission lines were blown up Tuesday last hours after being finally repaired

by crews working under the protection of United Nations.

The besieged capital has been without running water or electricity for more than 20 days and temperatures are dropping to as low as zero centigrade with the approach of winter.

"If all goes well, and repairs already carried out are not subjected to more military action, it should be possible to restore power to this beleaguered city by tomorrow," Milk Magnusson, a spokesman for the U.N. force said.

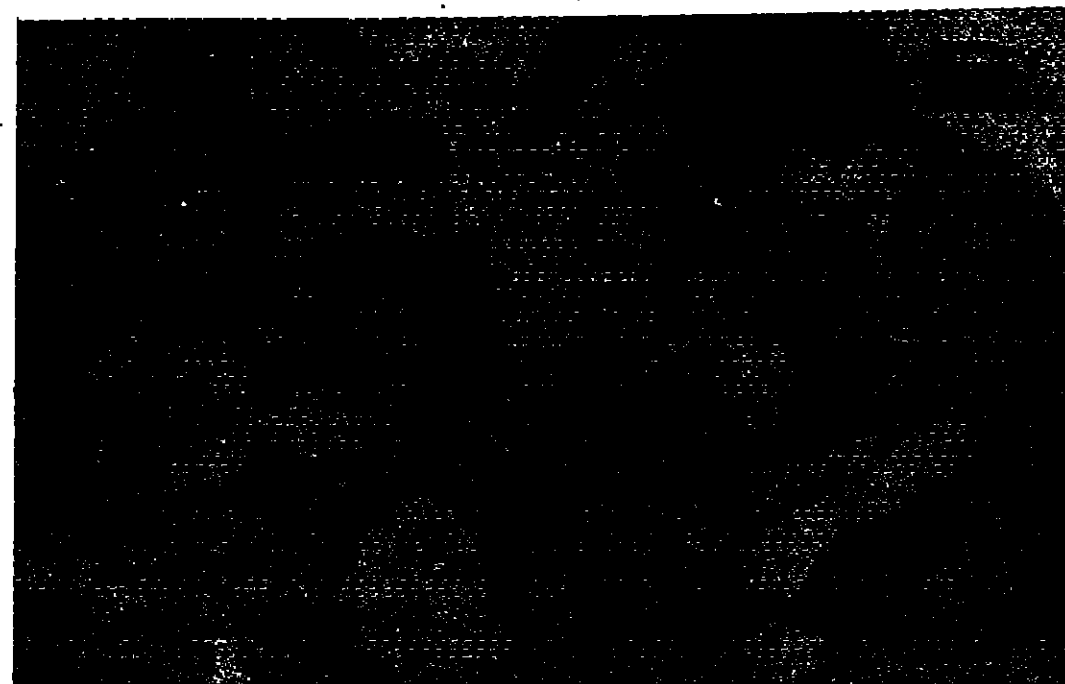
"A restoration of power would also mean water could flow again."

Meanwhile, organisers of the United Nations relief effort for Sarajevo voiced concern Wednesday about an attack on a U.N. plane coming into the Bosnian capital but said the humanitarian airlift would continue.

Peter Kessler, a spokesman in Zagreb for the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), said 14 plane-loads of aid were being flown to Sarajevo Wednesday by aircraft from Britain, Canada, France, Germany and the United States.

But he said Monday's attack on a U.N. peacekeeping force plane, in which a bullet entered the cockpit and narrowly missed the navigator, had "raised some alarm bells" at the UNHCR and among countries taking part in the relief effort.

"We are certainly very aware of this and we are monitoring the situation very closely for all flights going in," he said. "All the countries which participate are



A wounded Bosnian fighter lies on a stretcher on the floor of a military hospital as two nurses give first aid.

concerned about this. "This is not the first time that a flight into Sarajevo has been hit."

But he added: "The relief airlift will continue."

First word of the attack on the Russian-made Antonov 32 came 24 hours after it occurred, in a press statement issued by the U.N. Protection Force (UNPROFOR).

It said the plane, which UNPROFOR uses to fly supplies and staff to Sarajevo for its peacekeepers there, was hit and damaged by small arms fire Monday two miles (four km) west of Sarajevo airport on its final approach to the runway.

One bullet entered the cockpit and came within 10 cm (four inches) of the navigator's legs. Another five bullet dents were

later found on the left wing near the fuselage. There were no casualties and an investigation was under way, UNPROFOR said.

United Nations monitors have said that since last weekend both sides in the battle for Sarajevo had cheated on agreements not to use heavy weapons.

Sarajevo Radio Tuesday quoted UNPROFOR reports that for the first time released specific figures on adherence to undertakings not to use heavy weapons. Its monitors in the hills around the city said that between five p.m. Saturday and five a.m. Sunday, 35 shells hit the areas under Serb control and 137 the areas under Bosnian government control.

The same period the following day brought 70 shells on Bosnian

areas but none on Serb areas, the radio said.

The radio said the periods mentioned were covered by temporary agreements not to use heavy weapons including tank guns, heavy mortars and artillery.

But UNPROFOR, having no mandate to try to prevent the shelling, can do little but count the violations, use persuasion to try to end them and, in an evident change of policy, publicise them.

The radio report did not say who had started the shelling in any instance, and UNPROFOR officials were not available for comment.

UNPROFOR said Tuesday it had gained the agreement of all parties for electricians to repair power lines into Sarajevo cut for the past three weeks.

## Frenchman gets Nobel physics award; American wins in chemistry

**STOCKHOLM (AP)** — Canadian-born Rudolph A. Marcus of the California Institute of Technology won the Nobel Prize in Chemistry Wednesday and Georges Charpak of France won the physics prize.

Prof. Marcus won for his work on molecular energy transfers and Dr. Charpak won for an invention that helped to explore the innermost parts of matter.

The chemistry award went to Prof. Marcus, born in 1923 in Montreal, Canada, for his "contributions to the theory of electron transfer reactions in chemical systems."

An academy spokeswoman said Prof. Marcus was a U.S. citizen. He works at the chemistry department of the California Institute of Technology, Pasadena.

"Marcus is being rewarded for his theoretical work... which has greatly stimulated experimental developments in chemistry," the academy said.

Dr. Charpak, 68, was honoured for his invention and development of particle detectors, said the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, which awarded the 6.5 million kronor (\$1.2 million) prize. His pioneering work was published in 1968.

"Largely due to his work, particle physicists have been able to focus their interest on very rare particle interactions, which often reveal the inner parts of matter," said the academy.

Dr. Charpak (pronounced Shahr-puck) invented the multi-wire proportional chamber at Cern, the European Laboratory for Particle Physics, an invention that made it possible to increase the speed of data collection in experiments on subatomic particles.

The chamber uses modern electronics and connects a particle detector directly to a computer.

When Dr. Charpak learned he had won the prize, he said, "great, then I can buy a new pair of shoes this afternoon," the Swedish News Agency (TT) reported.

Mr. Charpak, who also is affiliated with the Higher School of Physics and Chemistry in Paris, is the ninth winner from France and the second in a row.

Various particle detectors based on Dr. Charpak's original invention "have been of decisive importance for many discoveries in particle physics during the last two decades," the Academy said.

"Today practically every experiment in particle physics uses some type of track detector that has been developed from Dr. Charpak's original invention."

## Japanese kingmaker resigns from parliament

**TOKYO (AP)** — Shin Kanemaru, Japan's most powerful politician, resigned in disgrace from parliament Wednesday in response to a rare outburst of public anger over his acceptance of mob-linked illegal donations.

The 78-year-old faction leader in the long-ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), who has brokered the rise of the last four prime ministers, was believed to be the most prominent politician in Japan's postwar history, forced to leave his diet seat.

His departure was expected to send the political world into confusion, leaving no clear contender for leadership.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Koichi Kato, in a televised news conference, admitted that the resignation of Mr. Kanemaru, "who has been a pillar of support, will be a blow to (Prime Minister Kiichi)

Miyazawa's administration." Mr. Miyazawa took office with Mr. Kanemaru's support a year ago.

The resignation, however, was not expected to lead to an overthrow of Liberal Democratic rule or to significantly strengthen the weak opposition parties.

Mr. Kanemaru, the son of a sake brewer who spent 34 years building a power base in the Diet, resigned at a meeting of legislators, said Tamioka Watanuki, party secretary-general.

"I sincerely apologise to the public. It is Shin Kanemaru who was wrong. Kanemaru will withdraw," NHK Television quoted the gruff, crew-cut faction leader as telling a small group of Japanese reporters.

The party, which has governed Japan since 1955, has been periodically wracked by money

and bribery scandals, most recently in 1989, when then-Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita was forced to leave office. But no one of Mr. Kanemaru's stature has been driven from parliament, an act that likely means his permanent retirement.

Mr. Kanemaru's faction is the largest in the ruling party, giving him effective control over the party and thereby national politics.

"Kanemaru's resignation is going to send Japanese politics into a state of limbo because no one can act until the troubles in his faction are settled," said Mamoru Nakai, a political analyst and professor at Tokoha Gakuin University.

Prof. Nakai said Mr. Kanemaru's departure has set off a fierce power struggle in the political

leadership, which is dictated by personal ties and seniority. Perhaps most noteworthy about Mr. Kanemaru's ouster, however, was his almost unprecedented vulnerability to public opinion.

Like his party colleagues, Mr. Kanemaru has rarely had to pay much attention to the public. The leading opposition, the Socialist Party, has been scorned by a majority of the electorate because of its leftist ideology, and the governing party has never been seriously threatened.

But Mr. Kanemaru's receipt of 4 million in illegal donations from a mob-tainted trucking company, and the seeming arrogance with which he resumed his duties after paying a token fine of \$1,650, proved to be too much even for the Japanese public.

## Gorbachev cancels Italy trip

**ROME (R)** Former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev said he will not make a planned trip to Italy Wednesday.

Mr. Gorbachev had been due make Italy his first overseas stop after a travel ban on him was waived this week.

But his plans were thrown into confusion Tuesday when the Russian Interior Ministry said his passport was only good for Germany.

"I apologise to all my Italian friends," Mr. Gorbachev told Italian state radio in a brief interview from Moscow. "It's not my fault — my passport only allows me to go to Germany."

Mr. Gorbachev is expected to go to Germany at the weekend for the funeral of former West German Chancellor Willy

Brandt.

His Italian trip, confirmed by the Italian Foreign Ministry Tuesday night, was to have begun Wednesday evening and would have lasted 10 days.

Mr. Gorbachev was due to have received several academic accolades and to have met Pope John Paul and Italian President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro.

He had been barred by Russian officials from leaving the country until he testified at hearings deciding the fate of the former Soviet communist Party.

Tuesday by his old rival, Russian President Boris Yeltsin, cleared the way for him to go abroad.

There was no immediate comment from the Italian Foreign Ministry.

## urged to shed militants

**CAIRO (R)** President F.W. de Klerk has told the African National Congress (ANC) to dump its "old allies" if it wants to share power and vowed to press ahead during a special session of parliament with an amnesty for apartheid crimes.

Mr. De Klerk Tuesday told a white, coloured (mixed race) and Indian representatives in the parliament that excludes South Africa's black majority he would not surrender control to radicals.

Wrapping up a two-day debate on violence and the slow pace of multi-party democracy talks, he said the ANC would have to shed its militant image and register as a political party before he would agree to share power in an interim government.

"I am not willing to form a government of national unity with the ANC as it is now. It must get rid of the radicals... it must undergo a transformation," he said.

## Republicans are hoping for boost from vice presidential debate

**ATLANTA (R)** — Elated Republicans are hoping Vice President Dan Quayle's combative performance in a televised debate with Democrat opponent Al Gore will help George Bush close Bill Clinton's lead in the final three weeks of the presidential campaign.

Democrats declared Mr. Quayle had only lost his temper instead of winning any debating points on issues such as the economy. At least one instant post-debate poll backed the argument that Sen. Gore had clinched the contest.

Mr. Quayle and Sen. Gore clashed for 90 minutes at the Georgia Institute of Technology Tuesday in a debate that settled little except to define independent Ross Perot's running mate, Vietnam veteran James Stockdale.

Sen. Gore kicked off the debate by telling Mr. Stockdale how proud he was to have served with him in Vietnam, a reminder of Sen. Gore's service as an army journalist and a job at Mr. Quayle who sat out the war at home in the National Guard.

But he focused on the economy, with pointed questions on when the Bush administration will start paying attention to the economy and jobs.

"When are you guys going to start worrying about our people here in the United States of America and get our country moving again?" Sen. Gore asked.

Mr. Quayle attacked Mr. Clinton, portraying him as a man who "has trouble telling the truth" on matters such as his draft record during the Vietnam War. Sen. Gore ridiculed Mr. Bush as a failed champion of the rich. But

the biggest difference between the two men was their demeanor.

Mr. Quayle, often reviled in the media for a bumbling and boring speaking style, seemed to undergo a personality change. He rattled off his lines like machine-gun fire, constantly interrupted by Sen. Gore, and sought to throw the Democrat off-guard.

"You know what you're doing? You're pulling a Clinton. He says one thing one day and another thing the next day," Mr. Quayle charged at one point as he and Sen. Gore argued over how much the Democrats would raise taxes.

Tennessee Senator Gore sought to take higher ground, replying calmly that "you can say that all you want, but it doesn't make it true." His smooth performance was denounced by Republicans as wooden, but Democrats said he outclassed Mr. Quayle.

Mr. Quayle declared at the end of the debate that Sen. Gore had not defended Mr. Clinton against the charge that he had trouble telling the truth.

Sen. Gore, who had made his closing statement, seemed taken aback.

Mr. Quayle's supporters were ecstatic. Bush campaign Chairman Bob Teeter suggested the vice presidential debate would help reduce Mr. Clinton's 10-15 point lead, with two presidential debates still to come.

"I'm not sure that any one debate will do that, but I think the four debates will," Mr. Teeter said. Mr. Bush was widely deemed to have lost the first presidential debate with Mr. Clinton and Mr. Perot last Sunday.

Democrats said Mr. Quayle's

performance was contrived.

"When Dan Quayle got off his tight little answers and paragraphs he memorised, he sounded rattled," said Mark Gearan, an adviser to the Gore campaign.

As in the first presidential debate, the comic relief was provided by the independent candidate, Mr. Stockdale, a conservative think-tank scholar who spent eight years, often under torture, as a prisoner of war in Vietnam.

Mr. Stockdale, 68, looked on in owlish incredulity and often rebuked both his rivals.

"I feel like an observer at a ping-pong game," he said in one of many wry remarks that had the audience howling with laughter. "They're professional politicians who massage these intricate plots... and meantime we're facing a desperate situation in the economy."

Mr. Stockdale stayed out of fray most of the time and it remained to be seen whether his performance would help make Mr. Perot a more credible candidate.

A snap poll for NBC News said viewers thought Sen. Gore had bested his rivals. It said 50 per cent of the 623 adult viewers surveyed thought Sen. Gore did the best job overall, compared with 32 per cent for Mr. Quayle and seven per cent for Mr. Stockdale.

But an ABC News poll of 624 eligible voters who watched the debate found the outcome a dead heat between Sen. Gore and Mr. Quayle. A total of 38 per cent picked Sen. Gore as the winner, against 35 per cent for Mr. Quayle and seven per cent for Mr. Stockdale. Seventeen per cent thought it was a tie.

## WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

### Little action expected from EC summit

**BRUSSELS (R)** — European Community (EC) leaders will have plenty of soothing words for their citizens at a summit Friday but little else to calm fears about the Maastricht Treaty on political and monetary union. "Birmingham is just a media show," one EC diplomat said of Friday's special meeting in the central England city. Financial markets have already been told not to expect any changes to the EC's semi-fixed exchange rate system even though it was the havoc in currency trading around last month's French referendum on the treaty which triggered the emergency summit. And any hopes that the gathering economic gloom across the community might be lifted by a deal to liberalise world trade appear to have been dashed by France's determination not to make concessions in the Uruguay round talks with the United States. Even Britain, like all summit hosts keen to play down expectations, is now talking of Birmingham as a step on the road to decisions at the regular EC summit in Edinburgh in December.

### China rejects Hong Kong reforms

**HONG KONG (R)** — Peking's de facto envoy to Hong Kong said China cannot accept Governor Chris Patten's scheme to widen democracy in the remaining five years of British rule, a pro-China newspaper reported Wednesday. The head of the official Xinhua News Agency in Hong Kong, Zhou Nan, Peking's top official in the British colony, gave the most explicit rejection to date of the sweeping liberalisation scheme unveiled last week in Mr. Patten's maiden policy address, the daily Ta Kung Pao said. "I felt disappointed by Patten's report and the Chinese side cannot accept it," Mr. Zhou said in Peking, where he was attending the Chinese Communist Party's 14th congress. Mr. Zhou said he agreed with a string of personal attacks on Mr. Patten issued in the past week by Xinhua, the Chinese Foreign Ministry and China's Hong Kong and Macau Affairs Office. "They represent the Chinese government's position," he said.

### Georgia creates Defence Council

**MOSCOW (R)** — Georgia's ruling State Council, clearly frustrated with its inability to cope with rebels in the Abkhazia region, has decided to create a Defence Council with sweeping powers, local journalists said Wednesday. They said the new eight-man body, headed by Georgia's newly elected leader Eduard Shevardnadze, will have the right to pass decisions "mandatory for all organisations and citizens across the state." The State Council said the formation of the Defence Council was caused by "a most difficult situation threatening territorial integrity of the country." The Defence Council included the ministers of defence, interior, foreign affairs and the head of the intelligence service. Former Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze, elected overwhelmingly as Georgia's leader Sunday, said his prime task was to bring order to

the country, swept by ethnic unrest. He said force would be used if needed to quell bloodshed in separatist Abkhazia, where hundreds of people have been killed in fighting between government forces and rebels backed by mountain fighters from Russia's Caucasus region.

### 5 MPs quit Seoul's crisis-hit DLP

**SEOUL (R)** — A crisis in South Korea's majority party deepened Wednesday when five disaffected legislators quit, saying they hoped to join a new grouping which would break the mould of the country's stagnant politics. The five parliamentarians accused Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) leader Kim Young-Sam, the party's candidate in this year's presidential elections, of reneging on promises to bring a new era of democracy to South Korea. "The DLP (Democratic Liberal Party) has been lost in arrogance and pride... forgetting its promise to the people that it would open a new era of change and reforms," the five said in a joint statement. "We will talk with those who are pushing for a new political party before taking concrete steps," they said. Political sources said a new party was expected to be established next week by the ever-increasing number of DLP deserters and some independent lawmakers. Promoters of the new party say they hope to field a candidate in December's presidential poll to block the rise of the "two-Kims" — Kim Young-Sam and chief opposition leader Kim Dae-Jung.

### U.N. warns Khmer Rouge

**UNITED NATIONS (R)** — Fearing the Cambodian peace process may be derailed, the Security Council has warned the Khmer Rouge guerrillas that elections will go ahead as scheduled, whether or not they participate. A resolution, adopted Tuesday by a 15-0 unanimous vote, prescribed a last-chance series of diplomatic moves to persuade the Khmer Rouge to disarm and join the election process by Nov. 15 or face further unspecified action. The document harshly criticises the Khmer Rouge for reneging on the peace accords it signed at a Paris conference on Cambodia in October 1991 by refusing to demobilise or let people under its control register for the May elections. "We must all be prepared to consider and adopt the measures necessary to ensure a stable new national government, and the peace that the Cambodian people deserve — with or without the participation of the Khmer Rouge," U.S. Deputy Ambassador Alexander Watson said in a statement.

### IRA vows to keep up London bomb blitz

**LONDON (R)** — London is expecting fresh violence after the Irish Republican Army vowed to maintain a sustained bombing campaign which has caused chaos and bloodshed in the British capital. The week-long blitz by the IRA, fighting to oust Britain from Northern Ireland, claimed its first fatality Tuesday night when David Heffer, 31, died of wounds sustained in a bar-room blast Monday. More than 12 people have been injured by eight small bombs planted across London but the guerrillas changed tactics Monday by planting a bomb in a crowded pub at lunchtime. Up until then bombs were under cars and in bins and telephone kiosks. Meanwhile, police said Tuesday a security guard foiled a new IRA attempt to murder a Northern Ireland unionist member of the British parliament. A spokesman said two men cut their way through a perimeter fence surrounding a district council office in Dungannon, southwest of Belfast, where MP Ken Maginnis was attending a meeting Monday night. The men were about to enter the building when a security guard raised the alarm and they ran off, the spokesman said.

## COLUMN

### Literary judges split prize after disagreements

**LONDON (R)** — The judges of Britain's most prestigious literary award were so deeply split last year that they decided to give the prize to two authors. The Booker Prize was awarded to Briton Barry Unsworth for novel Sacred Hunger and Canadian Michael Ondaatje for English Patient at a glistening ceremony in London. The Booker Prize guarantees winning authors an instant boost in book sales, but it has come under fire in recent years for "tokenism" — claims that the judges have favoured writers from minority groups or deprived backgrounds over equally talented ones from more conventional British backgrounds. Victoria Glendinning, who chaired the Booker judges, said the panel had struggled to reach a decision even on the books. They finally resorted to giving each book points instead of, as usual, taking a majority vote, she said. "I have heard of bookers panel taking 15 minutes to reach a decision. We took every minute that God, or rather the schedule gave," she wrote in Wednesday's Times newspaper. The Booker Prize has only been shared once before, in 1974 by Nadine Gordimer and Stelios Middleton. Unsworth and Ondaatje had been joint favourites among the six shortlisted for this year's prize. They will each receive £10,000 (\$17,000) in prize money.

### Russian court finds "Rostov ripper" guilty

**ROSTOV-ON-DON, Russia (R)** — A court in southern Russia Wednesday pronounced a man guilty of 52 sex murders and started reading the 330-page sentence against the country's most notorious serial killer. Andrei Chikatilo, 57, dubbed the "Rostov ripper," was judged to be sane, according to the verdict. He was charged with a horrifying rampage since 1978, raping and killing boys and young women and admitted to eating some of their sexual organs. "Chikatilo killed 21 boys aged between eight and 16 years, 14 girls aged between nine and 17, and 17 women," the verdict said. The former teacher and "perfect house band" who terrorised southern Russia, Ukraine and Uzbekistan, was arrested in 1990. Judge Leonid Akubzhanov started reading aloud the court's voluminous findings. The final sentence — with execution most likely — expected Thursday.

### Concorde breaks round-the-world record

**LISBON (R)** — A supersonic Concorde jet arrived back in Lisbon Tuesday after circling the globe in a record 32 hours and 53 minutes, Air France officials said. The Air France plane, which left the Portuguese capital Monday morning beat the previous record of 36 hours and 54 minutes, set in 1988, by more than four hours. The slim-line jet stopped at 40,400 kilometres flight to mark the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus's arrival in America. More than 50 passengers, including two children, paid \$23,000 each for the round trip flight number AF 1492.

### There's light at last on Irish island

**BELFAST (R)** — Rathlin, once smuggler's paradise but now famed as the only Irish island without mains electricity, switched the lights on last night. A 20-year campaign by its residents, the wild, rugged island off the coast of Northern Ireland has three small turbines, powered mainly by wind. Mother of Mary Coak, 42, said electricity would transform the island's way of life. At last they can turn out house generators and have light at the flick of a switch. "There will be no more woe — cutting diesel, trying to get the generator going, choosing between having the washing machine or something else because you cannot overload the blinking thing," she said.

### Dutch dogs to get criminal records

**THE HAGUE (R)** — Dogs face a criminal record if they bite. Persistent offenders will be subject to sentences of castration or being kept permanently on a leash under new 1993 council rules, an Agriculture Ministry spokesman said.

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